



STARS & STRIPES  
Your Hometown NewspaperCOMING  
SOON

Scene on Sunday

Ring in 2005  
the Asian way

Scene on Sunday

Adam Sandler  
stars in 'Spanglish'Don't miss a  
single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN  
225-4505 (Japan)  
721-7140 (Korea)  
645-2010 (Okinawa)

## TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....	20
American Roundup .....	16-17
Classified .....	21-23
Comics .....	18-20
Crossword .....	19
Faces .....	10
Horoscope .....	18
Letters .....	14
Opinion .....	15
Sports .....	24-32
TV listings .....	12
Weather .....	13
Your Money .....	11

## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## States

**Nazi guard citizenship:** The Justice Department asked an immigration judge on Friday to deport an Ohio man the government says was a guard at Nazi concentration camps. John Demjanjuk, 84, of Seven Hills, Ohio, is a retired auto worker when the government says served during World War II as an armed guard at Nazi extermination and concentration camps.

In April, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals unanimously affirmed a lower court decision revoking Demjanjuk's U.S. citizenship on several grounds, including his "willing" service in an SS-run unit "dedicated to exploiting and exterminating" Jewish civilians in Nazi-occupied Poland.

**Jackson molestation case:** Christmas came early for some 200 children who got to play at Michael Jackson's amusement park and meet Santa Claus.

"I hope you have a wonderful day. Merry Christmas. I love you," the pop singer called out to the children Friday from the driveway of his estate. Jackson, who faces trial next year on child molestation charges, appeared happy during the few minutes he spoke to the arriving throng.

**Ariz. prison standoff:** One of two inmates accused of taking a pair of guards hostage in an Arizona prison watchtower said Friday he would protest a judge's ruling by not attending his trial next month.

Ricky Wassenaar, charged with attempted murder and sexual assault in the January standoff, said he was reacting to a decision requiring him to wear electronic monitors during his trial, arguing they would prejudice the jury against him. He is abandoning plans to represent himself, he said.

**Immigrant truck deaths:** The lawyer for a man accused of abandoning a truck crammed with illegal immigrants in a deadly smuggling attempt claims the driver is being singled out for the death penalty because he is black.

Truck driver Tyrone Williams, 33, of Schenectady, N.Y., is accused of abandoning a trailer crammed with illegal immigrants traveling across Texas in the stifling heat, 17 bodies were found inside the trailer.

Judge Vanessa Gilmore asked that Attorney General John Ashcroft explain his office's refusal to "disclose why you sought the death penalty on this guy, the only black guy, and not on the others."

## World

**North Korea accusations:** North Korea on



VAL GEMPTIS/Courtesy of the U. S. Air Force

**Philippines storm relief:** An HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter from the 33rd Rescue Squadron at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, lands on the USS Fort McHenry on Friday during typhoon relief operations in the Philippines. The Philippines thanked the U.S. military on Saturday for its help after storms left more than 1,000 people dead and at least 550 missing. At least 900 American troops backed by 13 helicopters and C-130 cargo planes were deployed to the devastated northeast. U.S. Ambassador Francis Ricciardone said at a ceremony to end the relief mission. The operation cost \$7 million, the U.S. Embassy said in a statement.

Saturday said the U.S. military increased espionage flights over its territory and deployed weaponry in South Korea this year, allegedly to prepare for a nuclear war against the communist state.

The "U.S. imperialists" committed at least 2,100 cases of aerial espionage from January through November with reconnaissance planes, KCNA, the North's official news agency, reported.

## Military

**N.J. school strafing:** An Air National Guard pilot who accidentally fired on an Egg Harbor Township, N.J., school during a nighttime training exercise was to blame for the incident, but poorly designed controls in the F-16 also played a role, the Air Force concluded Friday.

The report also disclosed there have been three other incidents this year in which an F-16 pilot unintentionally fired during night-time strafing missions.

**National missile defense system:** After the Pentagon's national missile defense system failed a key test this week, the Bush administration has dropped its plans to activate the system by the end of the year.

A spokesman for the military's U.S. North Command said Friday that the missile

system would not become operational until early 2005 at the soonest, meaning the Pentagon will miss a goal advanced by President Bush.

**Air Force sex assaults:** More sexual assaults occurred within the Air Force's Air Command than are reported, according to a report based on an internal review that the command released Friday.

ACC, which trains and equips forces to provide combat airpower to U.S. warfighting commands, needs more standardized education programs focused on preventing sexual assault, the report concluded. The command also needs to create a climate in which assault victims are confident they can report the crime to commanders and receive effective support, the report said.

## Business

**Airline snacks:** American Airlines says it will begin selling \$3 snack boxes in the main cabins of long U.S. flights beginning Feb. 1. American, which cut back on in-flight food after the industry downturn of 2001, said Friday it would offer food for sale in the main cabin on all domestic flights longer than three hours.

Stories from wire services

Zama ITT



## It's Sapporo Snow Festival Time!

Experience one of the world's largest snow exhibitions --- only an hour and half from Tokyo!

See the astonishingly huge and beautiful replicas of famous architecture displayed on 10 blocks of Odori Park and at two other near by sites. A different theme is featured every year. You'll find yourself mesmerized by the sheer beauty of the ice and the warm friendliness of Sapporo. A variety of entertainment and food stalls at the sites make Sapporo an even more charming place to visit this winter!

**Book your trip with us! Packages still available!**

Choose from  
3 packages:

Pre-snow festival tour: February 4 - 6  
Opening ceremony tour: February 5 - 7  
Deluxe snow festival tour: February 6 - 8

Includes bus transportation from Camp Zama, airfare, accommodations at ANA hotel, airport/train transfer, sightseeing tour, daily breakfast and a Mogorini 180 lunch.

ITT Office Mailing Address:  
International Tours Office  
USAG-J, Unit 4506  
CAPA-J/CHCA-C/KRO  
APO AP 96343-5005

Japanese Address:  
Camp Zama  
Bldg. 533  
Zama-shi  
Kanagawa-ken 228-0027

PHONE:  
2463-0509/5273 (military)  
0462-54-8888  
57-1740 (commercial)  
03-3295-5721 (Tokyo)

E-MAIL: [travel@zamaitt.com](mailto:travel@zamaitt.com)



Best of  
Pacific

STAR

Voted Best  
Travel Agent  
2003 & 2004

# For the littlest survivors, the biggest loss

## Almost 900 U.S. kids have had a parent killed in Iraq

BY LISA HOFFMAN AND ANNETTE RAINVILLE

*Scripts Howard News Service*

**S**ad to the depths of his 4-year-old soul, Jack Shanabarger knew what he didn't want to be when he grows up: a father. "I don't want to be a daddy because daddies die," the child solemnly told his mother after his father, Staff Sgt. Wentz "Baron" Shanabarger, a military policeman from Fort Pierce, Fla., was killed March 23 in an ambush in Iraq.

On that terrible day, Jack and his four siblings joined the ranks of the largely overlooked American casualties who, until now, have gone uncounted. Although almost daily official announcements tally the war dead, the collateral damage to the children left behind has not been detailed.

But, from Defense Department casualty reports, obituaries and accounts in hometown newspapers and family interviews, Scripps Howard News Service has identified nearly 900 U.S. children who have lost a parent in the war, the start of the conflict in March 2003 through November, when a total of 1,256 troops had died.

Although comparably specific historical data is not available for other U.S. wars, military experts said the proportionally higher number of American children left bereaved by the Iraq war is unprecedented.

"This is a new state of affairs we have to confront," said Charles Moskows, a leading military sociologist and Northwestern University professor.

Overall, Americans in uniform today are far more likely to be married and have children than in the military of the past, Moskows and others said. And the reliance in Iraq on reserve forces — who tend to be older and even more settled than active-duty soldiers — also means more offspring at home.

Even though the federal government provides an array of benefits for widows, widowers and minor children, more help is needed — including counseling — for at least 882 American children left without a parent from the war in Iraq.

"As much as we are concerned about veterans' programs, we now have to be concerned about orphan programs," Moskows said. "This is the first time we have crossed this threshold."



PHOTOS BY ST. PETERSBURG TIMES-HERALD

Surrounded by family members, Corey Shanabarger holds daughter, Grace, 3, during the funeral for her husband, Staff Sgt. Wentz "Baron" Shanabarger in Dade City, Fla. Shanabarger was killed in Iraq in an ambush. He left behind his wife and five children.

According to the Scripps research, more than 40 percent of the 1,256 war dead through November were married, and 429 had children. At least half of those youngsters were 10 years old or younger. Among the parents who died were six female soldiers who had borne a total of 10 children among them — another historic first for women in the U.S. military.

Perhaps most heartbreaking are the more than 40 troops who died without ever seeing their children. At least 34 wives were pregnant — four with twins — when their husbands died, and another 15 had babies while their spouses were deployed. While some of the latter were able to return home on paternity leave, most died before they could.

Among those who never once held their babies was Army 1st Lt. Doyle Hufstader, 25, of Abilene, Texas, who was killed in March when a roadside bomb hit his armored personnel carrier near Habbaniyah. In his uniform pocket, Hufstader carried a sonogram picture of his unborn daughter, the only image he would ever have of Grace Ashley, who arrived six weeks after his death.

Ursula Pirtle gave birth to Katie, her husband's first-born and splitting image, 27 days after Army Spc. James Heath Pirtle, 27, of La Mesa, N.M., was killed Oct. 3, 2003, in an insurgent attack north of Baghdad.

"It's almost hard to look at her sometimes," Ursula Pirtle, who now lives in Harker Heights, Texas, wrote in a posthumous online letter to her husband. "I would give my right arm to get a chance to see you two together. ... I know she would be the biggest joy you've ever known."

Despite their losses, Pirtle and most other surviving spouses say they still support the war. They say they are profoundly proud of their loved ones' willingness to give their lives for their country and to help bring democracy to Iraq. That pride helps their children cope as well.

Virginia Collier, of Harrison, Ark., found great solace in her husband's undimmed belief that the Iraq war was not only justified, but also engendering more good than the media has portrayed. A father of four, her husband, Army National Guard Sgt. Russell Collier, 48, was killed Oct. 3 trying to help a fellow soldier under fire in Taji, Iraq.

"He died doing what he loved," Veronica Collier told a local newspaper.

By all accounts, children also bring a measure of comfort to the bereaved spouses and other relatives, providing a tangible link to the parent who is gone. Hufstader's widow, Leslie, said her daughter is a perpetual prod to get on with life.

In now sharing a home with her parents in Charlotte, N.C., Hufstader, 25, said she has been dreading the Christmas season, which would have been the first for her brand new family, but she has resolved to celebrate for Grace's sake.

In Hinesville, Ga., Denise Marshall also expects a sad Christmas, a holiday for which her husband, Army Sgt. 1st Class Robert

Marshall, once handled the biggest decorating chores.

That is the least of the new widows' problems. Since Marshall, 50, was killed in a rocket-propelled gun attack in April 2003, his wife has struggled financially and otherwise to care for their three children, all of whom have medical disabilities. The trio are getting counseling to help with their loss, but the emotional wound remains fresh.

More than a year after his father's passing, Marshall's son, Richard, 16, still has a hard time sleeping. Once, his mother said, Richard asked her, "Did Dad love his soldiers more than he loved us?"

The fierce love many fallen soldiers had for their children is evident in both the reasons they joined the service and in letters and e-mails they sent home.

Pfc. Stephen Downing, 30, of Burkesville, Ky., gave up his truck-driving job to join the Army to provide a better life for his children, Taylor, 9, and Stephen, 5.

"His kids were everything in the world for him," Downing's ex-wife, LeAnn Emmons, told a local newspaper.

A man with a soft spot for all children, Downing — killed Oct. 28 by a sniper in Ramadi — told his family he would also be fighting for the children of Iraq. "He told his kids that he wanted Iraqi kids to have the same opportunities (American) kids do," Emmons said.

It was his own bottomless love for his wife and two daughters that gave rise to the worst fear for Army Chief Warrant Officer William Brennan, an Army helicopter pilot killed in a crash Oct. 16 on a mission to protect Iraqi civilians fleeing under fire from insurgents.

## War's toll includes six moms

Army Pfc. Lori Pietsewa was not only the first female American soldier killed in combat in Iraq, she was also the first U.S. military mother to die in the war.

In all, six mothers in uniform have died in Iraq between the start of the war in March 2003 and the end of November, leaving behind a total of 10 children. Overall, 27 women troops have died in the war.

Among the mothers were:

■ Pietsewa, 23, who died in the March 23, 2003, ambush in which Pfc. Jessica Lynch was captured in Nasiriyah. She had two children, Brandon, 4, and Carla, 3. Both now are being raised by their grandparents in El Paso, Texas.

■ Another single Army Spc. Pietsewa's son, Sienna, joined the Illinois National Guard to build a better life for her daughter, Sierra, 6. On Oct. 6, while on a roadside bomb exploded as her convoy passed near Fallujah.

Cavey, 21, "wasn't the military type," her mother, Sandra Cavey, told a local newspaper. She enlisted in the Guard simply to help pay for college so she could get a better job. Before she deployed to Iraq, Cavey had been living with her parents and Sierra, and working as a bartender. She was injured in an accounting at Illinois State University in Normal, Ill.

The impact of Cavey's death on Sierra was somewhat cushioned by the fact that the child is continuing to live with her grandparents. "She's doing just fine," said Clarence Cavey, Jessica's uncle. "It's more like she lost a sister."

■ Less than a week after Cavey died, Army Sgt. Pamela Osbourne was killed by shrapnel from a rocket attack on her camp in Baghdad. A native of Jamaica, Osbourne, 38, came to Iraq with her husband, 11, who was killed. She was 14 with two dreams — to become a U.S. citizen and to serve in the military.

A medical condition could have kept her out of Iraq duty, but Osbourne was determined to serve her country, her husband, Robert Osbourne told a local newspaper in Hollywood, Fla.

While she was deployed, her husband tended to their three children, ages 9 to 19. A supply specialist, Osbourne managed to call home almost every day, between 5 and 6 a.m.

She made her husband promise not to hide anything from the kids if the worst happened.

"Even if I come home in a box, you should know that I did it for (all of) you. Take care of the kids. Stay strong," Osbourne told her spouse told her mother.

—Lisa Hoffman

## Correction

A story in the Nov. 17 edition about the Japanese guests of residents at Yokota Air Base, Japan, being permitted to drive their privately-owned vehicles on base upon completion of a registration process contained inaccurate information. Each approved request is good for a one-time visit only.

SEE LOSS ON PAGE 4

# Fallen troops leave last words of love

Scripps Howard News Service

Here are excerpts from the last letters of fallen U.S. soldiers to their children.

## 'I can't say I love you enough'

Marine Staff Sgt. Russell Slay, 28, of Humble, Texas, who was killed Nov. 9 in Fallujah when his armored vehicle was attacked by insurgents, wrote the following in his last letter home to his daughter Kinlee, 9, and son Walker, 5.

"Tell Kinlee that I love her and never knew what life was before she was born ... She'll always be Daddy's little girl. Daddy will always be with her and watching out for her. I'll miss you. Hugs and Kisses."

To Walker, "You're the sweetest little man. Be studious, stay in school and stay away from the military. I mean it. Always be a man. If you make mistakes, stand up and say so."

Slay told his daughter to go to college, and his son to have children of his own so he could "feel the joy and happiness you brought me ..."

## 'Please, be proud of me'

Army Pfc. Jesse Givens, 34, of Fountain, Colo., was killed May 1, 2003, when his

tank tumbled into the Euphrates River when a riverbank gave way. He wrote what follows to his sons, Dakota, 5, and Carson, who was born four weeks after Givens' death:

"Dakota — You are more son than I could ever ask for. I can only hope I was half the dad. You taught me how to care until it hurts, you taught me how to smile again. You taught me that life isn't so serious and sometimes you have to play. You have a big, beautiful heart. Through life you need to keep it open and follow it.

"Never be afraid to be yourself. I will always be there in our park when you dream so we can still play together. I hope someday you will have a son like mine. Make them smile and shine just like you. I hope someday you will understand why I didn't come home. Please, be proud of me. Please don't stop loving life. Take in every breath like it's your first. I will always be there with you. I'll be in the sun, shadows, dreams and joys of your life.

"Bean (his pet name for the unborn Carson) — I never got to see you but I know in my heart you are beautiful. I will always have with me the feel of the soft nuzzles on your mom's belly, and the joy I felt when we found out you were on the way.

"I dream of you every night, and I always will. Don't ever think that since I wasn't around that I didn't love you. You were conceived of love and I came to this terrible place for love. Please understand that I had to be gone so that I could take care of my family. I love you, Bean."

## Organizations that help survivors

Scripps Howard News Service

When a U.S. service member is killed on duty, his family is entitled to an array of benefits.

Among other help, the family can receive a one-time payment of \$12,000, burial benefits, life insurance proceeds, and at least \$967 a month in survivor compensation. In some cases, the Department of Veterans Affairs also will pay \$241 a month for each child left without a parent.

But in many cases, that money does not stretch far enough to cover expenses.

Across the country, some friends, relatives and co-workers of troops who have fallen in Iraq have set up funds for the bereaved families or for their children's educations.

There also are several national groups that help military families in need, and, in

some cases, accept donations from the public. Among them are:

■ **Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.** Provides unrestricted grants to families of fallen troops. 212-245-0072. On the Web: [www.intrepidmuseum.org/foundation/heroessfund.html](http://www.intrepidmuseum.org/foundation/heroessfund.html)

■ **Fallen Patriot Fund.** Provides financial grants to the families of those killed or seriously injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Call 214-658-7125. On the Web: [www.fallenpatriotfund.org](http://www.fallenpatriotfund.org)

■ **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).** Provides services to all who have lost a loved one while serving in the U.S. armed forces. 1-800-959-TAPS (8277). On the Web: [www.taps.org](http://www.taps.org)

■ **Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.** Provides financial assistance and emergency grants to families and survivors. On the Web: [www.nmcrrs.org](http://www.nmcrrs.org)

## Loss: Finding ways to keep memories of parent alive

LOSS, FROM PAGE 3

"It's not the fear of death that wears me down. It is the feeling of not being there for my three girls," Brennan, 36, of Bethlehem, Conn., wrote in an Easter letter to his sister. Only two years old when his own father died, Brennan worried that, if he were killed, his children "would never know me."

Corey Shanaberger, widow of the Florida MP killed in March, is doing everything she can so her children will remember their father in both life and death. Baron Shanaberger left instructions that, if he died, his five kids should be permitted to see him in his coffin, believing that would help them come to terms with his passing and provide them some closure.

At the funeral home viewing, Jack and his twin sister, Grace, climbed up so they could touch and kiss him in his open casket. The children placed precious mementos in the coffin with him — a little red truck, a stuffed puppy dog, a favorite doll, a photo.

Now, each night when the stars are out, Corey Shanaberger tells her children that one star is their daddy coming out of heaven to watch over them. They all blow a kiss to the sky.

"I always tell my children, 'You might forget what your daddy looked like but always remember what he felt like,'" she said.

"Always remember his hugs, always remember his kisses and always remember his love."

# WALL STREET HOUSE

## 5th ANNIVERSARY DECEMBER 22ND

### FROM 7-9 FREE COCKTAILS

### FIRST 100 PEOPLE THRU THE DOOR WITH ID RECEIVE

### A FREE BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE + A WALLSTREET T-SHIRT



**WALLSTREET HOUSE**  
**03-3586-0874**



# Judges interrogate top Saddam officials

By PAUL GARWOOD  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi judges interrogated the notorious general known as "Chemical Ali" and Saddam's former defense minister Saturday, opening the first phase in trials for the ousted dictator's top deputies. Insurgents, meanwhile, attacked election offices and wounded four American contractors with a roadside bomb.

Ali Hassan al-Majid — who earned his nickname for his alleged use of chemical weapons against Kurds and others — appeared haggard in a video released after the interrogation,

from which the press was barred. He leaned on a walking stick before sitting in front of a judge behind a desk.

Sultan Hashim Ahmad, Saddam's last defense chief, stared blankly at the ground as police officers stood to either side of him holding his arms.

The two were the first to go before an investigative hearing from among the 11 jailed top figures who, along with Saddam, are facing trial for crimes during the regime's three decades in power.

Both were questioned by a panel of investigative judges in a hearing attended by their lawyers, said Raad al-Juhay, the head of the panel.

The videos were the first images of the men since they were initially arraigned in July along with Saddam and the other detainees. Both wore gray-colored suits and white shirts without ties and arrived at the tribunal flanked by blue uniformed police.

Al-Juhay said the defendants will face questioning over Saddam's Anfal campaign, a depopulation scheme that killed and expelled hundreds of thousands of Kurds from northern Iraq, including the 1988 Halabja chemical weapons attacks that al-Majid has been accused of ordering.

The judges will also investigate the role of the detainees in the

bloody quelling of a 1991 Shiite uprising against the U.S.-led Gulf War to force occupying Iraqi forces out of neighboring Kuwait, plus the illegal imprisonment and executions of political opponents.

"We should make a distinction between the trial and the investigation," al-Juhay said. "We are talking about the investigation. We're in the investigation phase."

The judge said there would be no rush in concluding the hearing and trial process against Saddam and his senior aides. "Hastiness is the plague of trials," al-Juhay said.

Iraqi deputy prime minister, Barham Saleh, told Al-Arabiya TV that Ahmad was being quizzed pri-

marily to assist in tribunal proceedings against al-Majid.

"The former defense minister is being interrogated within the framework of focusing on the case of Ali Hassan al-Majid, who is accused of many crimes against the Iraqi people," Saleh said, adding that any future criminal trial would be public and "maybe open to journalists."

Many Iraqis — particularly among the Shiite majority — have been eager to see the prosecution of the ousted regime begin. The trials and elections come amid persistent violence by insurgents, including suspected former Saddam followers, that has raised concern over the success of the vote.



## A'cross Travellers Bureau

LICENSE NO. 635

Best Deals Online ➔ [www.across-travel.com](http://www.across-travel.com)

### This Week's SPECIALS

<b>DIRECT LOS ANGELES</b> \$39,800 1/10-1/23	<b>DIRECT NEW YORK</b> \$49,000 2/1-2/28 MON - FRI	<b>USA East Coast</b> \$51,000 2/1-2/28 MON - FRI	<b>HONOLULU</b> \$41,000 1/8-1/29 WED	<b>LONDON, PARIS, FRANKFURT/ROME</b> \$54,000 1/1-1/31	<b>SYDNEY/MELBOURNE</b> \$53,000 1/10-1/31 PLEASE ASK SCHEDULE
<b>DIRECT BANGKOK</b> \$34,000 1/7-1/21	<b>DIRECT SINGAPORE</b> \$37,800 1/10-1/23	<b>DIRECT HONGKONG</b> \$35,500 1/8-1/21 SUN-WED	<b>SHANGHAI</b> \$39,500 1/8-1/31	<b>DENPASAR</b> \$49,500 1/4-1/31 SUN, TUE, THU	<b>SEOUL</b> \$21,800 1/2-1/31 SUN, THU

### INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES

<b>GUAM 4days \$34,800~ (\$316)</b> 1/9-31 SUN, MON, TUE	<b>SHANGHAI 3days \$35,800~ (\$325)</b> 1/16-21, 28
<b>SINGAPORE 4days \$34,600~ (\$315)</b> 1/11, 18, 25	<b>CEBU 5days \$52,800~ (\$480)</b> 1/11-31

### ENJOY!! JAPAN HOTEL + AIR TICKETS

SAPPORO	OKINAWA	OSAKA	HIROSHIMA
\$20,300- \$185 1/8-1/14 4 persons per room	\$24,600- \$222 1/8-1/14 2/7 persons per room	\$19,500- \$177 1/8-1/14 2 persons per room	\$20,500- \$186 1/8-1/14 2 persons per room

**HIROO**

Map showing location of Hiroo station and surrounding areas.

03-5795-4711

**SHIBUYA**

Map showing location of Shibuya station and surrounding areas.

03-5467-0077

**SHINJUKU**

Map showing location of Shinjuku station and surrounding areas.

03-3340-6745

**IKEBUKURO**

Map showing location of Ikebukuro station and surrounding areas.

03-5391-3227

**YOKOHAMA**

Map showing location of Yokohama station and surrounding areas.

045-322-7525

### BUSINESS CLASS

<b>LOS ANGELES</b> \$153,000 (\$1,391) 1/10-1/23	<b>SINGAPORE</b> \$226,000 (\$2,065) 1/4-1/31 TUE-FRI
<b>LONDON, PARIS</b> \$235,000 (\$2,136) 1/9-1/31	<b>HONG KONG</b> \$107,000 (\$973) 1/8-1/31 SUN-FRI
<b>BANGKOK</b> \$149,000 (\$1,355) 1/2-1/31	<b>SEOUL</b> \$79,000 (\$718) 1/4-1/31

The Credit Card For Travellers!  
**MAPWORLD CARD**  
NICOS VISA / NICOS MASTER  
**APPLY TODAY!**  
ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP  
FOR FREE!

### IMPORTANT

(Other restrictions may apply)  
Payment Japanese yen only.  
Campaign prices are for cash payment.  
Credit cards accepted (Visa/Master) at office.  
What may vary depending on departure date.  
Subject to availability.  
Tax not included in these prices.  
Please inform us if you need about these prices in Sitar & Sitar.  
\*\* means starting from these prices.  
Home Domestic Package available Tokyo in advance.  
Last minute booking OK!

## Cowpens sailor dies

A USS Cowpens sailor died Saturday when the motorcycle he was riding was involved in an accident with a motor scooter.

The sailor, a gunner's mate 2nd class whose name the Navy is not releasing pending notification of family, was riding the motorcycle around 11:15 a.m. Saturday on the Miura Peninsula, south of Tokyo Bay.

The sailor was pronounced dead at a local hospital an hour later. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

## Recruiting info concerns

**HONOLULU** — An eighth-grade girl's concern that she might be drafted and sent to Iraq has raised questions about military recruiters' access to information on Hawaii's public school children.

When Sybil Aram asked why her granddaughter's contact information was being supplied to the military, both state education and military officials gave assurances there wasn't any interest in drafting a 13-year-old.

But Aram says she was "very upset" to learn that school privacy policies allow military recruiters access to information on children from starting in the sixth grade.

From staff and wire reports

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN

Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Old Man Winter must be asleep at the wheel in northern Japan.

Usually blanketed with deep powder by now, the northern Tohoku mountains have seen scant snowfall to date that most ski and snowboard resorts in the area are not yet open.

For the first time in four years, Misawa's Outdoor Recreation has had to postpone its ski and snowboard instructor program run by the Amateur Ski Instructors Association. The five-day class, which was to start Saturday, has been rescheduled for Jan. 24 to 28, said Ron Stark, director of Outdoor Recreation and Weasel's Den.

"There are no resorts that are open," he said Friday. "Appa was due to open today, but they changed that on their Web site to the 27th (of December) because they have no snow."

Outdoor Recreation's amateur instructor class was full with 20 students, including a few who were to drive up from Yokota Air Base and Yokosuka Naval Base near Tokyo. Stark expects a few slots for the January class to open

## Unseasonably warm temps keep servicemembers from the slopes

since duty requirements may force some people to drop out, he said.

"We're still waiting on enrollment confirmation," he said. If there's availability, "we'll probably for a very brief time in the beginning of January open it up for enrollment."

It may be hard to think about winter sports, though, since the base is also dry and snow blowers and shovels remain idle. The only snowfall to accumulate was an overnight half-inch during last week that melted the same day, according to Misawa's 35th Operations Support Squadron weather flight.

Stark said it's not unusual for the base to be bare this time of year. "What is unusual is the higher elevations are not getting the snow," he said. "The snow fronts are just not coming in."

Stark said five ski and snowboard resorts within 1 to 3 hours driving distance of Misawa Air, Shimokura-hachimantai, Shi-

zukuishi, Makado and Okunakayama — have little to no snow. Misawa residents would have to go to Sapporo on Japan's northern island of Hokkaido to ski or snowboard, he said.

"This is very unusual right now," Stark said. "The resorts should be open. We had good snow conditions this time last year."

A Sendai District Meteorological Observatory spokesman said many places in Tohoku have yet to record snowfall because the cold air needed has not moved south. The observatory, however, predicts snowfall this winter to be average. Misawa's average snowfall is about 128 inches a year; last year, 78 inches was the total.

Capt. Stephen Barlow, commander of 35th OSS weather flight, said it's too early to predict another dry winter.

Many years "snow doesn't really start kicking in until" mid- to late December. That's entirely possible, considering some of the correlations that Barlow and other Air

Force meteorologists found by reviewing weather records dating to 1955. In 15 cases where less than 100 inches fell in a winter, about 90 percent of the time there was a sharp increase in snowfall the following winter, Barlow said. Also, though there were only a few instances of this, warm summers tend to precede heavy snows, Barlow said. Misawa residents sweated through unusually hot and muggy temperatures last summer and people were predicting this fall that snow would be plentiful.

So far, Barlow said, warm temperatures have kept snow at bay. The mean temperature in Misawa for December so far is 49 degrees, well above the average of 42.

"I can almost guarantee that will drop," Barlow said. "We're probably getting ready to turn that corner." As for Stark, he's shying away from predictions. "We're hoping it comes soon," he said. "We have people who want to get out and enjoy winter sports."

For more information on Japan's ski and snowboard resorts, go to [www.snowjapan.com](http://www.snowjapan.com).

Hana Kusumoto contributed to this story.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: [svanh@stripsides.osd.mil](mailto:svanh@stripsides.osd.mil)



**NIGHT FLIGHT**  
Fly over the moon

# YOKOTA 042-530-4891

E-mail: [yokota@fe-nf.com](mailto:yokota@fe-nf.com)

**We will give you the best offer!! JUST CALL US!!**

## Christmas Special!!

### SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL 2005

4FEB-6FEB 30 DAYS FROM ~~¥44400~~(\$426) PRE-FESTIVAL PLAN  
5FEB-7FEB 30 DAYS FROM ~~¥48900~~(\$470) OPENING DAY PLAN  
5FEB-8FEB 40 DAYS FROM ~~¥61900~~(\$589) 10AY EXTRA PLAN

\*All Hotel 2 or 3 nights (breakfast All included! Be sure not for snow!)

**CAIRNS 5DAYS**

FROM ~~¥699~~  
CHILD HALF!

**SAIPAN 3DAYS**

FROM ~~¥403~~  
INFANT FREE!

**HAWAII 5DAYS**

FROM ~~¥499~~  
INFANT FREE!

**ALL HOTEL & AIR INCLUDED. TAX NOT INCLUDED.**

## 17th JAN. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. Day

**BEIJING 4DAYS**

~~¥53000~~(\$509)

**BEIJING & XIAN 5DAYS**

~~¥69000~~(\$663)

**GUILIN 5DAYS**

~~¥69000~~(\$663)

**VIETNAM 5DAY**

~~¥69000~~(\$663)

**DAY TOUR, MEALS GUIDE ALL INCLUDE!! (DEPT 15,16 & 19JAN) MIN.10 PASSENGER**

## DEC & JAN DEP. USA FARE

ROUND TRIP 1 MONTH TICKET	LOS ANGELES 24 JAN-3 FEB	USA SELECT CITY 6-31 JAN	ALL USA 10-15 DEC	ALL USA 1 CITY 25-31 JAN (35 ADVANCE)
PRICE FROM	FROM <del>¥39,900</del> /CH\$35,000 <b>\$382/CH\$335</b>	FROM <del>¥46,000</del> <b>\$442</b>	FROM <del>¥58,000</del> <b>\$557</b>	<b>¥49,900</b> <b>\$479</b>

## DEC-JAN SPECIAL

ROUND TRIP	OKINAWA 8 DAYS ADVANCE	SEOUL SUN-TUE JAN SUN-TUE	BANGKOK BY 17 DEC	HONG KONG BY 25 DEC	MANILA BY 31 JAN
PRICE FROM	FROM <del>¥28,600</del> <b>\$275</b>	FROM <del>¥23,900</del> <b>\$221</b>	FROM <del>¥39,800</del> <b>\$382</b>	FROM <del>¥38,900</del> <b>\$374</b>	FROM <del>¥39,900</del> <b>\$408</b>
O/W, ROUND TRIP	GUAM/SAIPAN ONE WAY	HAWAII ONE WAY	HAWAII BY 15 DEC	PHUKET 2-31 JAN	HO CHI MINH 2-31 JAN
PRICE FROM	<b>\$175</b>	<b>\$338</b>	FROM <del>¥54,000</del> /¥41,500 <b>\$519/\$399</b>	FROM <del>¥42,900</del> <b>\$412</b>	FROM <del>¥42,900</del> <b>\$412</b>

## MISAWA DEP USA & ASIA ASK US AS WELL!!

BIG NEWS!! NIGHT FLIGHT OPEN ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY FOR YOU! (Open Sunday after military payday) ★★★★★

**WEEK DAY 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

**You'd Better Ask Night Flight!! No Waiting! We are happy to serve you immediately! ★★★★★**

**IMPORTANT**

★ Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.  
★ Seats are limited. Please confirm all details at time of booking.  
★ Breakfast included.  
★ Please verify all flight of booking.  
★ All rates quoted based on AIRABILITY.

★★★★★

## State Dept. issues alert on Indonesia

The Associated Press

The State Department on Saturday warned that terrorists were planning more attacks against Western targets in Indonesia over Christmas and New Years, reiterating advice to its citizens not to travel to the country.

The State Department's warning follows similar alarms sounded by other foreign governments earlier this week that militants belonging to the al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah terror group were plotting more bombings.

"The department reminds Americans that the terrorist threat in Indonesia continues and may increase over the December-January holiday period," the State Department said on its Web site. "Reports indicate that terrorists are planning attacks against a wide variety of targets."

Jemaah Islamiyah has been blamed for three terror attacks in Indonesia in the past two years, including the 2002 Bali nightclub bombings in which 202 people were killed, seven of them Americans.



Anshori, one of the suspects in September's Australian Embassy bombing, shouts during a police reconstruction Saturday in Indonesia.

## Police reconstruct making of bomb

Four suspected Islamic militants — accused of involvement in the Sept. 9 suicide attack on the Australian Embassy — took part in a police reconstruction Saturday at the house where the bomb was allegedly built.

The suspects said nothing to reporters. Scores of villagers had gathered to witness the reconstruction, a common feature in Indonesian police investigations.

Several dozen heavily armed anti-terror police guarded the four men, who wore blue prison T-shirts. They were not handcuffed.

None of the four men have been charged. Several other key players accused in the plot, including Malaysian militants Azahar bin Husin and Noordin Mohamed Top, are still on the run.

— The Associated Press

## China considering anti-secession law

Taiwan fears legislation could lead to attack

By JOE McDONALD

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China says it plans to enact an anti-secession law that Taiwan says could be a pretext for an attack on the self-ruled island, prompting an appeal from Washington for both sides to resume dialogue.

Leaders of China's parliament will consider the law at a meeting Dec. 25-29, the official Xinhua News Agency said Friday. The measure could be passed by the full legislature in March.

The Xinhua report didn't mention Taiwan. But it said the move was in response to proposals for a "law on national reunification" — a reference to Beijing's goal of uniting Taiwan and the mainland, which split in 1949 amid civil war. Beijing claims the island as part of its territory. The communist mainland has threatened re-

peatedly to invade if Taiwan tries to make its de facto independence permanent.

Taiwan denounced the planned secession law as a pretext for possible military action, and called on Beijing to think hard before passing it. Many fear that the United States — Taiwan's main arms supplier and military ally — could be drawn into any hostilities.

Taiwan's official in charge of relations with China, Joseph Wu, said late Friday that Beijing seemed to be preparing the legal groundwork for a future military conflict.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher appeared for dialogue.

"Both sides should really focus on engaging in dialogue and try to peacefully resolve their differences. Neither side should do anything to unilaterally change the status quo," Boucher said.

## No bath for Roh

IBUSUKI, Japan — It would have made a chummy photo: the Japanese and South Korean leaders lying side-by-side, relaxing in a Japanese onsen bath.

Japan's Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi invited South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun to join him in the bath in a gesture of friendship to cap off their two-hour summit Friday at a spa in southern Japan.

But Koizumi ended up going alone. Koizumi insisted that he hadn't been snubbed.

"I told him to relax in the way he saw fit ... I said this wasn't mandatory," he said late Friday night, occasionally winking in the 122-degree-Fahrenheit bath.

Summit meetings offer world leaders a rare chance to deal with their most pressing issues face-to-face. But they are as much about appearances as they are about the discussions, and leaders on friendly terms often go to great lengths to show it.

Since Roh took office nearly two years ago, he and Koizumi have met every few months.

## China crowns beauty

BEIJING — A 22-year-old student who has had cosmetic surgery on her eyelids and cheeks was crowned the winner Saturday of China's first pageant for such "man-made beauties."

Feng Qian received a \$6,000

country club membership after being picked from among 20 finalists, who ranged in age from 18 to 62.

Surging numbers of newly prosperous Chinese are going under the knife after decades of communist austerity, seeking shapelier noses, fuller breasts and other features.

## Indonesian TV too hot?

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesia's president says television shows that feature women exposing their navels make him uneasy, and he wants such programs off the air, a Cabinet minister said Friday.

Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono wants to regulate television shows in the world's most populous Muslim nation through "non-repressive mechanisms," said Welfare Minister Aliwi Shihab.

## Bird flu in Japan

TOKYO — Four employees of a bird-flu contaminated poultry farm and one person who helped disinfest the facility were quarantined the bird flu virus during an outbreak early this year in Japan, the government said Saturday.

If confirmed, the cases would mark the first human infections from avian influenza in Japan. The five were based in rural Kyoto state, about 230 miles west of Tokyo.

From The Associated Press

**3.2 Ghz**  
**OUR 1024MB Ram**  
**ATI 9400 128mb turbo**  
**Wireless**  
**\$175**  
**per month**  
**800HighTech.com**

## SUBSCRIBER APPRECIATION COUPON



Just hand this form to your carrier before Jan. 10, 2005 to enjoy immediate savings.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Delivery Address \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Base \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(H) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(W) \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT OPTIONS (Check one)

☐ 3 Month Option/\$45.75 (Save \$3.00)

☐ 6 Month Option/\$85.50 (Save \$12.00)

☐ 12 Month Option/\$156.00 (Save \$39.00)

Your carrier is an independent business person. Please reward good service.

Off-base delivery charges may apply.

DoB and SOFA home delivery only.

Your Hometown Newspaper

**STARS AND STRIPES**

circulation@pstripes.osd.mil

**PREPAY**  
**SAVE UP TO**  
**\$39<sup>00</sup>**  
**Per Year**

Tip \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Earn Your Degree at Home!

Use your Military/VA Education Benefits.

Cleveland Institute of Electronics offers nationally accredited distance learning programs in electronics and computer technology/VA & DANTES eligible.

Partial list programs offered:

• Associate Degrees in Electronics & Computer Technology

[www.cie-wc.edu](http://www.cie-wc.edu)

Send for your **FREE Course Catalog** & see how easy it is to put your Military Education Benefits to work for you & see if you qualify for **advanced standing**.

[www.ciebookstore.com](http://www.ciebookstore.com)

CD tutorials, software, tool kits & more. CE, ITES, ELP, Stress, Cleveland, OH 44116



# Bin Laden says he's aiming at U.S. economy

BY DAVID MCHUGH  
The Associated Press

Osama bin Laden claims to have belated the Soviet Union into bankruptcy as an Islamic guerrilla fighter in Afghanistan in the 1980s. Could he do the same to another hated superpower — the United States? The al-Qaida leader's latest purported communication drove home the point by calling on militants to stop the flow of oil to the West and praising a Dec. 6 attack on the U.S. Consulate in Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer.

In an audiotape posted on an Islamic Web site Thursday, a man whom U.S. officials believe was bin Laden accused Westerners of subjugating the Middle East to plunder its oil.

Go on and try to prevent them from getting oil," the speaker said. "Concentrate your operations on that, especially in Iraq and the Gulf."

## Analysts: Only U.S. mistakes can bring serious damage

It was believed to be the first time a purported bin Laden tape in effect called for attacks on the oil industry. But he has flaunted the economic theme before, recalling in his most recent video how Afghan mujahideen "bled Russia" for 10 years, until it went bankrupt and taunting the U.S. government over the size of its budget deficit — which peaked at \$413 billion last year.

Security and terrorism experts suggest bin Laden's claims to be undermining the United States economically are largely propaganda, noting the flexible, market-driven U.S. economy is a far cry from the creaky, bureaucratic Soviet giant that disintegrated in 1991.

Still, the economic argument gives bin Laden a tool he can use to rally his supporters and inflate his aura of success by claiming

damage caused by other factors as his own handiwork.

Spurred by the new audiotape, Muslim radicals using chat rooms on Islamic Web sites debated Friday what weapons could be used to attack an oil tanker in the strait of Hormuz in the Gulf.

Bin Laden "sees us as poised on this precipice, and he's going to push us into the abyss," said Bruce Hoffman, a terrorism expert at Rand Corporation.

As bin Laden put it in his video aimed at Americans just days before the Nov. 2 presidential election: "The real loser is you. It is the American people and their economy."

The al-Qaida leader cites the experience of Afghan mujahideen fighters "in using guerrilla warfare and the war of attrition to fight tyrannical superpowers" to drive the Soviets out.

Bin Laden was among U.S.-supported Islamic fighters in Afghanistan, backed with money and weapons in hopes of weakening Russia, the United States' opponent in the Cold War.

The Soviet comparison is aimed as much at bin Laden supporters as at Americans, says Rand analyst Hoffman. "That's how he motivates and animates people and addresses morale — telling them, 'No one thought we could achieve that feat, and by the same token no one thinks we can achieve this feat of defeating the United States, but we will,'" Hoffman said.

Retired Gen. William Odom, a scholar at the Hudson Institute and an expert in the Soviet collapse, said bin Laden's analogy is off base since the Soviet Union collapsed for reasons other than Afghanistan, including the weakness of its state-run economy.



Osama bin Laden

As far as spending on Iraq, Odom said damage to the U.S. economy is attributable to the Bush administration embarking on a costly war.

# Dioxin compensation for Vietnam vets still costing billions

BY PAUL REICHER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States sprayed more than 19 million gallons of defoliant over the jungles of Vietnam, a tactic designed to kill the forests and deny cover to the enemy.

The chemical worked. Miles of vegetation withered and died.

It also exposed an estimated 3 million U.S. troops and millions more Vietnamese to dioxin, the same toxic chemical reportedly used to poison Vietnamese Yushchenko, a candidate in the disputed presidential election in the Ukraine.

Experts say it is unlikely that many, if any, Americans absorbed the dose Yushchenko in-

gested. Tests confirmed by three labs in the Netherlands and Germany showed that Yushchenko had 100,000 units of the poison per gram of blood fat, the second-highest concentration on record.

Mark A. Brown, a toxicologist who heads the environmental agents service of the Veterans Affairs Department, said it is uncertain how much dioxin troops absorbed from their exposure to dioxin-contaminated Agent Orange in Vietnam.

A study years after the war ended suggested that U.S. ground forces probably had blood levels of dioxin in the range of five parts to 10 parts per trillion.

While a small dose in comparison to that given Yushchenko, it was enough, according to some studies, to cause cancer, diabetes, nerve damage and other diseases in susceptible individuals, entitling them to compensation,

which has cost the government billions. Some veterans have been judged disabled because of their contact with Agent Orange. Disability payments can range from \$106 a month to almost \$3,000 a month.

Just how much the VA is paying to compensate for Agent Orange exposure and for medical care of diseases linked to the herbicide is difficult to determine, department spokesman Jim Benson said.

## Seasons Greetings, Sgt. Delbert Jensen

Your friends and co-workers at Noramco want to wish you a Happy Holiday!



Living Offbase? Save \$\$ with our New Low Rates!

\*Credit for new Customers based on equivalent rate to US. Existing Customers Please Call E-Mail for New Rate Plan.



From OFFBASE From OFFBASE Calling via DSN

\* Ask for your FREE Personal 800 Number in the US for Friends and Family to call you only, at your expense, and at low US rates.

\* Ask for a FREE ONECARD Calling Card, which can be used in over 50 countries and, where permitted, over the DSN network, and save up to 50% over A1811.

\*\* Cellphone calls at higher rate

- ★ American Quality since 1994!
- ★ Fast, Easy Sign Up Anytime!
- ★ Credit Card/ US Bank Debit!
- ★ Use with Cellular Phones\*\*
- ★ Great Customer Service 24/7!

For more info or secure sign up:  
[www.militel.net](http://www.militel.net)

CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS

Japan 00-531-13-0436

S.Korea 00-308-14-0025

E-mail [info@militel.net](mailto:info@militel.net)



STARS & STRIPES  
Your Hometown Newspaper

[www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com)



# Powell optimistic about uncertain future

BY BARRY SCHWEID  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With only about a month left as America's top diplomat, Secretary of State Colin Powell says he has no sure plans for the future. But, he says "doors will open and some of them I will go through."

Powell virtually ruled out taking another full-time government job, although he said Friday, "I will be in public life in some way. ... I've still got some treadwear left on me," the 67-year-old career soldier-diplomat said.

Known to have a strong interest in promoting education among disadvantaged children, Powell said, "I'm interested in any child being left behind."

Looking back on nearly four years as secretary of state, Powell expressed no regret for using ultimately faded and exaggerated claims about Saddam Hussein's weapons stockpiles to ask the United Nations last year to back war with Iraq.

And he dismissed any suggestion his personal credibility suffered from no weapons of mass destruction were found, although he said most information about Saddam's intentions turned out to be accurate.

Powell said he was "fully supportive" of the approach the administration took before the war.

Powell characterized the strategy this way: "Try to solve it peacefully. If you can't solve it peacefully and the problem is

still there and it does require military action, then get a coalition to undertake that military action."

On two troubled fronts, North Korea and Iran, Powell said diplomacy appears to be making headway toward ending the two countries' nuclear weapons programs — without the need to repeat the use of force that toppled Saddam Hussein in Iraq.

Powell calmly assured North Korea and an anxious international community that "we have no hostile intent, we have no intention of invading."

As for Iran, Powell said he did not know of any American military action being contemplated. "Obviously, at the Pentagon they are always thinking about the unthinkable, but there are no military plans," he said.

Powell said the administration had put a spotlight on Iran's nuclear activity, persuading the world to be concerned.

He said he hoped European allies who have taken the lead in diplomacy with Tehran can persuade Iran to stop enriching uranium and other nuclear weapons programs.

"Until there is absolutely no doubt in anyone's mind that they are not hiding something, I think it is wise in this case to be somewhat suspicious," he said.

Turning to the Middle East, Powell said Israel had shown flexibility toward the Palestinians in advance of their Jan. 9 elections and that the United States was prepared to work with whomever is chosen to succeed Yasser Arafat as their leader.

SAN DIEGO L.A.

IACE TRAVEL NETWORK

SEATTLE ATLANTA

www.iace.co.jp/english



IACE TRAVEL

HOT NEWS

Call us last for the best price.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO/FROM NARITA

JOIN IACE TABI CLUB Get travel specials thru the Email!

## \*EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!\*

LOS ANGELES \$400~ 1/26/27  
USA EAST SELECTED 1CITY \$576~ 1/16-1/21 MON-FRI

## \*EARLY BIRD ASIA SPECIAL!\*

SINGAPORE \$374~ 1/6-1/31  
HONG KONG \$322~ 1/9-1/31 (exp. Sat)  
SEOUL \$198~ 1/6-1/31 (exp. Fri)  
MANILA \$394~ 1/16-1/21  
SHANGHAI \$321~ 1/29-23

## \*OCEANIA SPECIAL!\*

SYDNEY \$674~ 1/9-31  
PERTH \$863~ 1/9-31

## \*MILITARY SPECIAL!\*

GUAM/SAIPAN \$333~  
HONOLULU \$692~

## FROM FUKUOKA

FLYING TO MANILA SPECIAL  
GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$358~ 1/6-31  
GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$578~ 1/6-31  
GOOD FOR 2 MONTH \$488~ 1/6-31

—EARLY BIRD JANUARY SPECIAL (ASK CONDITIONS)  
SEUL \$168~ ASK DATE HONG KONG \$308~ ASK DATE

USA/1CITY \$988~ 1/4-2/29  
NEW YORK \$568~ 1/4-2/29  
LOS ANGELES \$478~ 1/4-2/29  
HONOLULU \$448~ 1/10-1/21

## Package Tour

GUAM FREE PLAN 4DAYS \$508~ ASK DATES  
HONOLULU FREE \$618~ ASK DATES

\*FOR DOMESTIC, RESERVATION MUST BE MADE BY 14 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. \*PRICES DEPEND ON HOTELS AND FLIGHTS. PLEASE ASK DETAILS & AIRFARES.

## FROM HIROSHIMA

SEOUL \$168~ 1/6-23 (THU)  
MANILA \$528~ 1/15-1/29 (SAT)  
BANGKOK \$578~ 1/15-1/29  
HONG KONG \$588~ 1/16-23 (MON-FRI)  
LONDON \$638~ 1/20-27 (MON-FRI)

## Package Tour

OKINAWA 2DAYS \$298~

(W/ ECONOMY HOTEL) 1/5, 6, 1/9-1/31 (SUN-THU)  
\*FOR DOMESTIC, RESERVATION MUST BE MADE BY 14 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. \*PRICES DEPEND ON HOTELS AND FLIGHTS. PLEASE ASK DETAILS & AIRFARES.

## JAPAN DOMESTIC PACKAGE

(BASED ON DOMESTIC OCCUPANCY)

## —BULLET TRAIN &amp; HOTEL—

ONSEN \$96~  
KYOTO 2DAYS \$185~  
HIROSHIMA 2DAYS \$240~  
KYOTO/HIROSHIMA 3DAYS \$338~

## INTERNATIONAL PACKAGE

(BASED ON DOMESTIC OCCUPANCY)

GUAM 4DAYS MILITARY SPECIAL \$498~  
SINGAPORE 4DAYS \$580~  
BANGKOK 4DAYS \$617~  
BEIJING 4DAYS \$610~  
HONG KONG 4DAYS \$594~

## SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL 2005

IACE TRAVEL Annual English escorted tour

## FROM

TOKYO  
5 Feb 6 Feb  
\$665 \$798

FROM FROM FROM  
AOMORI HIROSHIMA FUKUOKA  
5 Feb 5 Feb 5 Feb  
\$675 \$795 \$645

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tour Included: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

\*Tours include: Round trip airline ticket, Brights Deluxe Class Hotel (located at center of the city), Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 3rd day included, Daily breakfast at hotel, One dinner for 1st day (BBQ or SEAFOOD), All applicable taxes, Please ask agents for more details!

Good News!

## GET \$10 OFF COUPON

with purchase of \$500 or more (per ticket)!!

\*Only available when you come to our Yokosuka/Atsugi/Yokota office

\*This coupon is valid after your next international trip from Japan

\*Other restrictions may apply. Please ask agent for more details!

## IMPORTANT (Other restrictions may apply)

Campaign prices are for cash payment.

Credit cards accepted (Visa/Master/Amex/Discover)

Price may vary depending on departure date.

Subject to availability.

Tax not included in these prices.

Please inform us if you read about these prices in Stars & Stripes.

"~" means starting from these prices

Japan Domestic Package requires 10days advance.

Last minute booking OK!

## FROM MISAWA

LOS ANGELES \$680~  
SAN FRANCISCO \$730~  
NEW YORK \$730~  
1/21-1/23 MON-FRI 1/21-1/23 MON-FRI  
LAST DATE TO PURCHASE: 1/20/05 IN ADVANCE

\*PAYMENT MADE EARLY! PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE IN US DOLLARS OR JAPANESE YEN.

## JANUARY PACKAGE SPECIAL

JAPAN PACKAGE

(INCLUDES 10 NIGHTS BASED ON DOMESTIC OCCUPANCY)

OSAKA/KYOTO 3DAYS \$315~

TOKYO 2DAYS \$252~

FUKUOKA 3DAYS \$410~

JANUARY SPECIAL FROM MISAWA

USA WEST COAST \$779~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

USA EAST COAST \$759~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

SINGAPORE \$655~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

MANILA \$675~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

HONG KONG \$710~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

HONOLULU \$675~

1/21-1/23 MON-FRI

SEOUL \$675~

1/16-1/23 MON-FRI

For SASEO CUSTOMERS

0120-922-154

FAX: 002-483-1116

e-mail: tuk@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-19:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

For MISAWA CUSTOMERS

0120-65-4223

FAX: 011-219-2766

e-mail: spk@iace.co.jp

MON-FRI 10:00-19:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

SAN DIEGO L.A.

WASHINGTON T.L.A.

DALLAS

LAS VEGAS

HONOLULU

WEST L.A.

COLUMBUS

## FACES



# Into the lion's den

Catherine Zeta-Jones finds her niche in established cast of 'Ocean's Twelve'

By MIKE SZYMANSKI

Zap2it.com

When Catherine Zeta-Jones joined the cast of "Ocean's Twelve," it had to be intimidating. Sure, she has an Oscar for "Chicago," and she married to high-powered producer/actor Michael Douglas, but as she put it, she entered "a den of lions" when walking onto the set of this sequel.

Zeta-Jones portrays Isabel, a detective on the trail of Danny Ocean and his band of bandits, played by George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle and others. No, she wasn't the only woman — Julia Roberts was in the first movie, "Ocean's Eleven" — but this time Roberts found out she was pregnant during shooting, and wasn't around as long when the cast toured Rome, Amsterdam, Sicily and Monte Carlo.

"I met [director] Steven Soderbergh on 'Traffic.' I knew that 'Ocean's Twelve' was going to be starting up soon," says Zeta-Jones.

"I liked my character. I liked the arc. So here I am."

The team of actors is a modern-day Rat Pack, not unlike Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. and the rest who made the original "Ocean's Eleven," according to producer Jerry Weintraub. In a hotel room with most of the actors in Palm Springs recently, he recalls Zeta-Jones coming onto the set.

Weintraub says, "She came in and she was a little worried about walking into this — 'Den of lions,' interrupts Pitt.

"It was our first day of shooting. Brad had just come back from 'Troy' and was still in a dress," the producer continues. "She had lost a lot of weight after having the baby and so on and she looked to die for. She had the high heels on and tight jeans, those low cut things — 'Easy boy,' adds Pitt.

"Anyway, all the guys were around Catherine within seconds," he recalls. "She was the center of attention, as she should be, and she fit right into the group."

It's a tough group, by any stretch. They are known to play practical jokes on each other, and razz each other constantly.

"There was actually no camaraderie at all on the set of this one," Clooney quips. "I mean, quite honestly. Brad set the tone and he's such a movie star, it was very hard. No, really, they're fun people except for Julia [Roberts]. We don't like her or her twins."

Clooney, the biggest prankster, put a bumper sticker on Pitt's passenger door saying, "I'm gay and I vote" and later, "Small Penis Onboard."

Damon recalls, "The bumper sticker that you put on Brad's car the last day of shooting was good. As he drove home through L.A. rush hour traffic people were honking at him and waving and he thinks it's because he's Brad Pitt. So he's waving back."

Pitt smirks.

First of all, there's a very low level of maturity amongst all the guys there. So that helps, we bond very quickly because of it. Then we've got the beautiful women to make us look a little better."

The women weren't immune from the pranks, Pitt says, "I think that the biggest joke was on Catherine because she actually thought that we were making a movie. Being the new kid no one told her. So she was up learning lines and doing character breakdowns and we just let her roll with it."

She laughs, "I thought that the guys didn't like me."

This idea for the sequel came when the actors were filming overseas at the end of the first "Ocean's" movie, and they tried to figure out how to reunite for another caper. But it was important to have someone who connected with the group, especially since Pitt has to do a romantic scene with her.

"The great thing about Catherine is that there is this great beauty, this great elegance, but at the same time she'll drink anyone under the table," says Pitt.

"Don't be fooled," acknowledges Zeta-Jones.

"That's for sure," adds Pitt. "She can definitely drink."

Then, reminded of the kissing he gets to do with her, he says, "Well, you know, it does have its perks."

As for Clooney, he insists, "We never worked with her, it was all CGI, all green screen."

## Shop Camp Zama's "One Week til Christmas" Sale!!



### Military Star Card Offer

No down payment, no payments and no interest until April 2005 on purchases made between 17-24 December 2004

**Monday Only  
December 20**

**25% off**  
All Christmas  
CDs and DVDs

**40% off**  
All holiday motif clothing

**50% off**  
Christmas Trees, lights,  
selected decorations  
(excludes hallmark)

**Double Stamp Day**  
at Camp Zama  
Popeyes

**Tuesday Only  
December 21**

First Day of Winter Sale

**40% off**  
All outerwear and outerwear accessories  
Flannel sheets, Instant In-store rebate

**40% off**  
All Camp Zama Souvenir T-shirts  
(excludes Trojan uniform clothing)

**40% off**  
All holiday decorative potpourri

**Double Stamp Day**  
at Camp Zama  
Burger King

**Wednesday Only  
December 22**

Kids' night gift idea sale

**30% off**  
All pre-wrapped E&B giftware

**25% off**  
All Juniors DeCoded,  
Mudd, Tommy Hilfiger

**50% off**  
All children's outerwear  
and accessories

**50% off**  
All holiday motif clothing

**Food court - We Deliver**  
263 3336  
Please call for details!!

**Thursday Only  
December 23**

Even of  
Christmas Eve Sale!!

**25% off**  
All Men's Junction West Sweaters

**40% off**  
All Men's Nautica, Chaps

**30% off**  
Bahlsens holiday cookies

**30% off**  
All holiday candy

**Burger King**  
Kids Meal  
99 cents

**Friday Hours  
Christmas Eve  
December 24**

Main Store open 0900-1800



Watch for  
**50% off**  
Hallmark Sale  
Beginning  
December 26th

Look for  
instant rebates  
specials!

**AAFES**  
aates.com...open all the time!



Sorry, no adjustments  
or layaways,  
limited to stock on hand

You Save  
an average of  
**21.89%**  
when you shop  
at AAFES!

Your Camp Zama PX is  
open 0900 - 2000  
Christmas Eve Hours  
0900 - 1800

## YOUR MONEY

## Find that one great gift idea

Perfect present bears repeating

BY BELLE LEVING  
AND LIZ SEYMOUR  
The Washington Post

We once heard of a woman who gave almost everyone on her Christmas list a pair of cashmere socks: little booties for a friend's baby, pink-striped knee-highs for a girl's gift niece, impeccable argyles for a button-down brother, brother-by-another-shawl for granny.

Her strategy may have lacked variety, but you've got to applaud its universality. The most time-consuming part of holiday shopping is figuring out what to give and where to get it. But settle on something like cashmere socks — what's not to like? — and you're halfway home.

So that's what we've looked to include in this annual gift guide. A one-great-idea-fits-all solution to last-minute shopping. Gifts that may practically anyone would appreciate with charm no one could resist.

Have fun with this strategy. Giving one rubber spatula would be weird, but a bright bouquet of them in all shapes and sizes is wonderful. Our suggestions can be found in lots of stores, in many shops and at a range of prices. So even if you haven't started shopping, here's a way to get your list all wrapped up.

We couldn't resist suggesting a few small gifts that may seem

**A one-great-idea-fits-all solution to last-minute shopping: Clockwise from top, a rearview desk mirror, cord organizer and door stop.**

more functional than festive. But for the hard-core home-obsessed, these items could be one of the best surprises under the tree.

1. **Colors, coordinated:** Help her on the compulsive quest for the perfect shade of sage by buying her a complete paint fan deck of all the colors from her favorite company. Many paint stores and hardware stores will sell them, for about \$15 to \$20.

2. **Perfect measurements:** Anyone wanting to hang a picture, put up a towel rack or figure out if the couch will fit will appreciate a quality tape measure. A perfect gift for the new homeowner or first-time apartment dweller.

This one, by Stanley, costs \$12.49 at Ace Hardware.

3. **Put a stop to it:** A door that

sneakily swings shut as soon as you open it is one household annoyance that's easy to see. This charming rubber pup, spotted at the Container Store for \$3.99, keeps any door in place.

4. **Looking backward:** A desk that faces away from the door is supposedly bad feng shui.

Put things right in a home office with this rearview mirror that affixes to a computer monitor so you can see what's going on behind your back. Sold at the Container Store for \$9.99.

5. **Major cords:** A snarl of wires under the desk or behind the TV? Help a neatnik get things straight with a cheerful little cable turtletail that won a spot in the Museum of Modern Art's design collection. Widely available at home and office supply stores, this one is \$6.99 at the Container Store.

LATWP

## Ignore spammers and maybe they'll go away

BY JOHN MORAN  
The Hartford Courant

All the traditional signs of the holiday season are here: the festive lights, the busy stores and the crush of spam in your e-mail.

Yes, said to say, the onslaught of junk e-mail has joined the list of holiday hallmarks.

Spam is, of course, a year-round phenomenon. But it unquestionably accelerates each November and continues right into the new year.

Much of consumers' annual retail spending takes place during this holiday shopping spree. Clearly, the junk e-mailers want their share.

You might think people wouldn't need to be warned against these solicitations. But they do. So, as a public service, I urge you: Never buy anything advertised via unsolicited commercial e-mail.

Anyone who would pollute your inbox illegally is surely capable of ripping you off, too.

Everything about these advertisements screams scam, swindle and con job. You'll probably get nothing for your money. If you get anything at all, it's likely to be some cheap trinket, a mere shadow of what you thought you were buying.

Worse still, you might discover that the e-mail "sale" was actually a thinly veiled excuse to put your credit card number.

You'll figure that out when mysterious charges for things you never bought start turning

up on your credit-card statement.

And let's face it, the only reason anyone sends spam is the hope that a few suckers will respond. Every time someone does, it encourages future blasts of millions of junk e-mails.

In time, some of the big guns fighting spam — large, wealthy and tech-savvy corporations like America Online and Microsoft — might make progress against rogue spammers.

Meanwhile, it's up to Internet users to help stop spam, never responding to it. Don't even open it. Just delete it instead.

That is, naturally, a nasty chore. Fortunately, there is automated assistance available for a reasonable cost. The number of anti-spam software programs available to help filter your incoming mail is large and growing.

Norton AntiSpam (\$39.95) and McAfee SpamKiller (\$39.95) are two of the best-known products in the market. But they're also faced with a host of worthy competitors, including MailFrontier Desktop (\$29.95), Qurb AntiSpam (\$29.95) and AntiSpam EmailGuard (\$19.99).

Most have free trials available for download if you'd like to take them for a test drive before buying. If spam's getting to you, they're worth checking out.

But whatever you do, don't buy them if they're advertised by e-mail.

## To our readers

Jim Coates is on medical leave. His computer advice column will return in several weeks.

Cents and Sensibility  
Money tip of the day

## Gift card reminders

BY NANCY DUNNAN

We're coming up on holiday season, a time when many of us give those on our holiday list a gift card.

They seem like the ideal present — a no-brainer in a way. You don't need to know your niece, nephew or friend's favorite color or size, sweater they wear and the lucky recipient gets to pick out his or her favorite thing.

All true, but make sure the gift card you purchase:

■ Does not expire. Some cards become inactive after a certain number of months. Others come with monthly "inactivity charges" during the time period they are not used.

■ Can be replaced. You want to deal with a retailer that will issue a new card should the original be lost.

Financial adviser, economist and security analyst Nancy Dunnan is the author of "How to Invest \$50 to \$5,000." She writes a weekly column for thelineinvestor.com.

## FRIDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES					
52-wk	Low	High	Vol	Net Chg	% YTD
10,815.83	10,706.49	Dow Jones Industrials	10,840.92	+5.57	+5.17
3,776.55	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,751.87	+17.84	+0.48
125.20	254.11	Dow Jones Utilities	129.09	+4.35	+2.39
7,161.96	6,171.85	NASDAQ Composite	7,098.15	-33.83	-0.47
1,138.26	1,138.26	AMEX	1,408.21	+3.31	+0.29
2,177.27	1,750.82	Nyse Composite	2,135.20	-16.95	-0.78
1,207.97	1,066.72	S&P 500	1,194.20	-9.81	-0.75
556.25	540.29	S&P MidCap	551.66	-2.22	-0.40
668.61	515.90	Russell 2000	642.08	-1.52	-0.23
© Wall Street Journal					

NYSE				AMEX				NASDAQ			
Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)				Most Active (\$1 or more)			
Name	Vol	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	Last	Chg
Pfizer	288507	25.75	+0.12	SPDR	26252	31.46	-0.01	Microsoft	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	244091	18.65	+0.41	Sempra	22305	32.46	-0.32	Intel	116486	1.68	+0.50
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41
Merck	23844	31.56	+0.20	QIA Fund	79478	16.05	-0.01	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis	154394	36.56	+0.20
Novartis	24689	18.65	+0.41	Novartis							

**MONDAY EVENING / DECEMBER 20, 2004**

## MOVIES

• SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	6:58PM Headline News	60 Minutes (CC)		Without a Trace Cop City A missing woman's disappearance matches five murder victims in an old case. (CC)	24 Day 3 9:05AM - 7:00AM President Palmer tells Jack that a top CTU agent is to be killed. (CC)	Pacific Report	The Tonight Show (CC)	Late Show (CC)			
7	AFN-Alt	(5-66) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	(35) Guiding Light (CC)	(1-17) General Hospital (CC)	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)	Joe and Friends	For and Friends			
8	NEWS	Bulls and Bears Cavuto on Business	Dateline NBC (CC)		Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)	Joe and Friends	For and Friends			
9	SPTS	5:30s Golf Weekly's Three-Tour Challenge - Final Day From Reflection Bay Golf Club in Henderson, Nev.		5:30s Golf Weekly's Three-Tour Challenge - Final Day From Reflection Bay Golf Club in Henderson, Nev.								
10	SPEC	The Simpsons Everybody Loves Raymond	To Be Announced		Law & Order "Chosen" Detectives discover a murder victim was the muscle end of a gambling operation.		American Hot Rod "Alumabud 3" The owner gives a break when the Aluminabud boy arrives ahead of schedule.	Friends Chandler	Friends Chandler	Seinfeld Jerry de-constructs a new car.	Seinfeld Gelling	Blind Date (CC)
11	AFN-Alt	SpongeBob Rugrats (CC)	Lizzie McGuire	Noel Noel	Smashville "Racer" (CC)		Boy Meets World	Boy Meets World	The Cosby Show	Home Improv.	Touché by an Angel (CC)	
12	AFN-Alt	Entertainment Tonight 5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm	5:15pm - 6:00pm
13	TV	11:55pm - 12:30am Pain Dirty (2003) Drama	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes	Dominoes
14	PBS	Dragon Tales Garden of Eatin'	Zoom! Salt dough clay beads, (CC) (DVS)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N) (CC)	Antiques Roadshow Rare objects found, including a Navajo chief's blanket. (CC)	National Geographic Inside Special Science	Frontline "Dead" Factors leading to obesity in America. (CC)	Charlie Rose	Ghazal A-Verse (N) (CC)			
15	SHOW	5:00pm - 5:30pm Iggy Grogg Down (2002) Drama	Kieran Culkin, Susan Sarandon, Jill Goldstein	A wealthy young's upbringing leaves him scarred for life. (CC)								
16	A&E	Cyberworld A Healy lawyer is murdered. (CC)	American Justice "Complicity to Kill: The Real Caruth Story" A hitman is implicated in a killing. (CC)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
17	DISC	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
18	TFC	Wazz Up Wazz Up	Star Circle Quest	Tanging Ni	(65) Insider	The Correspondents	Kumikating Kabuhayan	Morning Star	(40) Masayang Tanghal Bayan			
19	CNN-I	Larry King Weekend (CC)	CNNI World News	World Sport	Business International	Asia Tonight	World Sport	CNNI World News	World Sport	Biz Asia		
20	GOLF	Amelby All Challenge Highlights Ernie and Darren Clark.	WEC Invitational Highlights Highlights of the 2003 WEC Invitational.	American Express Championship Highlights Tiger Woods.	Extreme Surgery II Facial deformities; heisted backbones. (CC)	Cartoon Cartoon	Looney Tunes	Am I Weasel	Sheep in the Big City	Devised Squad		
21	TOON	Samurai Jack	Dexter's Laboratory	Codename: Kids Next Door	Justice League	Powerpuff Girls	Cartoon Cartoon	Looney Tunes	Am I Weasel	Sheep in the Big City	Devised Squad	
22	ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter Traveling with David Attenborough	Most Extreme Mothers of the World	Animal Show Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King	2003 Stephen King
23	COM	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry	Heroes of Jewish Jewelry
24	NGCA	Planet Wild	Wildlife Detectives Wild West News	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat
25	SPIKE	World's Wildest Police Videos	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation The Anatomy of a Lie
26	FOX	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele	Remington Steele Remington Steele
27	BE	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1	10ured and Part 1
28	COURT	NYPD Blue "Little Angel" Fantasy	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat	Scars Wranglers Habitat
29	STR-UL	The Simpsons Show (CC)	The Drew Carey Show	News Focus Asia	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)
30	LIFE	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding	The Nanny The Wedding
31	ABC-FM	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven	7th Heaven Seven
32	HIST	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour	One Hour One Hour
33	STR-UL	The Simpsons Show (CC)	The Drew Carey Show	News Focus Asia	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)
34	ADV 1	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My									

**JAPAN TV**

SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
<b>Afternoon</b>		<b>Afternoon</b>	
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)		12:15 CNN News	
1:30 U.S. Movie (1985): Police Academy 2: First Assignment (2:00)(12)		12:15 What's on Asia (r)	
5:50 News (6)		12:15 ABC News	
<b>Evening</b>		3:15 CNN News	
7:00 News (1)		4:15 World News Hour	
		5:15 Asian News	
		<b>Evening</b>	

**JAPAN TV-BS7**

10:10 Japanese Major Leaguers (1)	Hideki Matsui
11:15 NFL: Baltimore Ravens vs. Indianapolis Colts	
2:15 Asian News	
3:30 World Amazing Sports	
4:15 Asian News	
5:15 World News Hour	

\_\_\_\_\_

**JAPAN TV-BS11**

**Morning**  
9:50 Aerobics  
10:00 Classical Music: Wien Trombone Quartet (r)  
**Afternoon**  
3:00 German Movie (1921): Der Mude Ton (JPN)

**WOWOW**

**Morning**  
7:30 Oswald #8  
10:00 French-U.S. Movie (2002): *Femme Fatale* (1:57)

**Afternoon**

2:00 TV Series: *Third Watch*  
:00 U.S. Movie (2002): *Knockaround Guys*  
(1:34)  
:40 U.S. Movie (1978): *The Deer Hunter*  
(3:05)  
**Evening**  
:00 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola  
:00 U.S. Movie (2003): *Critical Assembly*  
(1:30)

## MTV

**Morning**  
 6:00 Wake Up!  
 6:00 M Size Friday

8:00 Top Choice  
10:00 Pure Music  
11:00 All the Best of MTV 2004 #1-#2  
**Afternoon**  
12:00 Rocks  
1:00 Classic  
1:30 Top Choice  
2:00 All the Best of MTV 2004 Punk'd #1-#2  
3:00 All the Best of MTV 2004 Live Special  
#1-#2: Radiohead, Coldplay, The Darkness & Franz Ferdinand

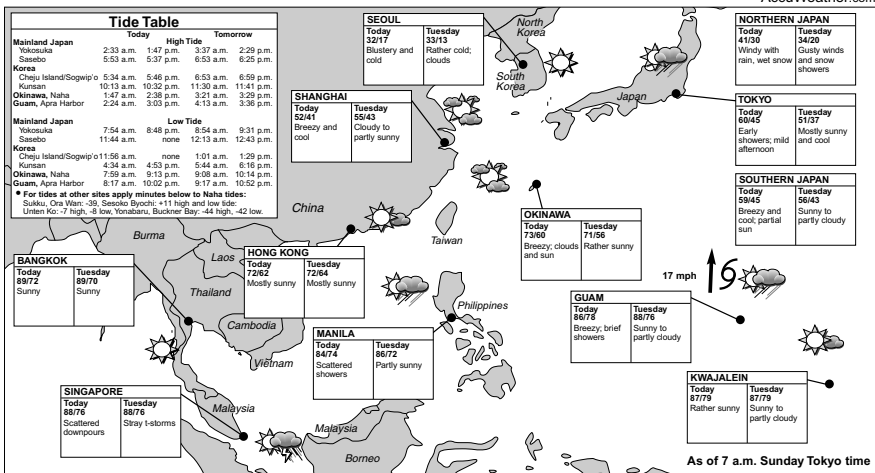
**Evening**  
6:00 M Size Monday  
7:00 U.S. Top 20 with Super Dry  
9:00 All the Best of MTV Live Special: Orange  
Range 175R  
10:00 Rocks  
11:00 Inside Track Concert  
12:00 Classic '90s  
1:00 M Size Monday  
2:00 Top Choice  
2:30 Check the Rhyme  
3:00 After Hours



# The Pacific Forecast

All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 2004

AccuWeather.com



## Extended Forecasts

**TOKYO**  
 Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 47, low 33.  
 Thursday: Mostly sunny, high 44, low 33.

**KADENA**  
 Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 71, low 58.  
 Thursday: Partly sunny, high 73, low 60.

**SEUL**  
 Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 33, low 18.  
 Thursday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 36, low 21.

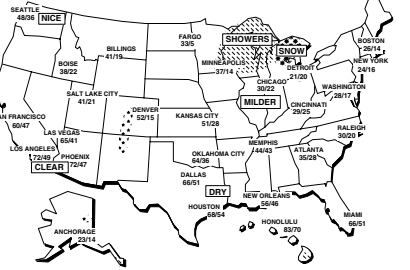
**MANILA**  
 Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 86, low 74.  
 Thursday: Partly sunny, high 88, low 74.

**HAGATNA**  
 Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 88, low 76.  
 Thursday: Partly sunny, high 86, low 76.

## Saturday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	52/29	Los Angeles	80/52
Amarillo	60/26	Little Rock	65/32
Anchorage	37/30	Louisville	51/27
Ashville	53/32	Miami	78/61
Baltimore	47/32	Milwaukee	35/8
Birmingham	58/35	Nashville	56/30
Bismarck	28/5	New York	40/35
Boise	44/32	Omaha	47/7
Boston	38/35	Orlando	71/49
Brownsville	71/47	Philadelphia	47/33
Buffalo	39/23	Phoenix	72/46
Burlington	32/26	Pittsburgh	42/21
Charleston, SC	64/39	Portland, OR	53/39
Charlotte	57/36	Portland, ME	32/22
Christchurch	39/19	Salt Lake City	42/23
Cleveland	42/22	St. Louis	50/12
Columbus, OH	42/22	St. Louis	50/12
Duluth	14/-16	San Antonio	73/41
El Paso	55/30	San Diego	76/50
Hartford	38/24	San Juan	85/74
Helena	44/27	Tampa	71/52
Indianapolis	46/18	Tulsa	61/24
Jacksonville	66/40	Washington	50/34
Kansas City	53/11	Wichita	58/21

## Monday, December 20



## U.S. Extended Forecast

Frigid arctic air will cover the eastern half of the nation Monday. Temperatures in the single digits and teens will freeze the Northeast, Midwest and Ohio Valley. The Deep South will feel the chill as temperatures from Tennessee to Florida will average 15 to 20 degrees below normal. A storm off the Northeast coast will bring snow to northern and coastal New England. Traveling will be difficult across Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Elsewhere, dry weather will prevail across the Southwest. A cold front will bring gusty winds and snow showers to the northern Plains. The arctic chill will remain over the East Tuesday. Snow will linger along the New England coast. A storm will bring snow to the Upper Midwest.

## Monday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	89/72	Iwakuni	61/40
Beijing	28/15	Kadena AB	73/60
Camp Casey	32/16	Kunsan AB	39/27
Christchurch	60/46	Kwajalein	87/79
Diego Garcia	85/76	Manila	84/74
Hagatna	86/78	Misawa AB	48/28
Hanoi	76/63	Osan	34/20
Hong Kong	72/62	Perth	92/69
Honolulu	83/70	Pusan	49/34

## Monday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	87/71	Budapest	30/23
Athens	56/47	Buenos Aires	75/62
Auckland	62/51	Cairo	65/44
Baghdad	58/39	Cancun	72/57
Barbados	87/70	Cape Town	77/67
Barcelona	51/33	Geneva	42/23
Berlin	32/25	Madrid	34/26
Bermuda	72/52	Moscow	54/40
Brussels	33/23	Johannesburg	85/50
		Katol	48/25
		Kiev	28/17
		London	70/52
		Oslo	24/16
		Paris	31/21
		Rio de Janeiro	80/68
		Rome	51/36
		St. Petersburg	27/17
		Stockholm	25/17
		Warsaw	25/20



# Sell it.....Free!

Advertise your car, truck, motorcycle, boat, or bicycle in Stars & Stripes. No charge! On us! Up to 7 lines of copy for 21 days - free! Call Classified today at 229-3276, or email us at [classified@starsandstripes.com](mailto:classified@starsandstripes.com). Individuals only - no dealers!

New Hampshire Star  
**STARS & STRIPES**  
[www.stars.com](http://www.stars.com)



## OPINION

## The nuance of necessary deception in war

Can reporters be trusted with war information? Can the government be trusted? We're still finding out — or maybe we're not finding out. One of the great successes of World War II was Operation Fortitude.

James Pinkerton



It was Operation Fortitude, aimed at cloaking the D-Day invasion in a "bodyguard of lies." The Allies wished to convince the Germans that the assault across the English Channel would land near the town of Pas de Calais, at the Channel's narrowest point.

So the Allies created a phantom army, with inflatable rubber tanks and paper-mache airplanes. To further the illusion, they created a fake navy, too, and put out fake radio transmissions. Meanwhile, the real assault forces were assembling farther south. And on the morning of June 6, 1944, the Allies landed at Normandy, 200 miles from Calais.

Not only was the Normandy coast lightly defended, but the Germans could not have known that the "real" attack was coming at Calais. By the time they figured out the deception, it was too late.

Operation Fortitude was, in the words of Air Force historian Ernest Tavares Jr., a "near perfect plan," leaving the Germans "essentially blind." And that's the way to win a war.

So to the obvious question: Could anyone think so sneaky as Operation Fortitude be

pulled off today? Could thousands of people be kept quiet in a world full of cell phones, e-mail and text-messaging, all interfacing with an ever-proliferating number of cable news channels, bloggers and list-servers? Which is to say, in other words, that "the media" today aren't just a few reporters who might be pep-talked or intimidated into keeping a secret. Instead, the media include millions of people representing different traditions, different countries, different loyalties. Could such a buzzing collectivity even begin to keep a secret? The United States is hardly helpless. American forces deposed Saddam Hussein in just three weeks of fighting last year.

Yet on the other hand, the larger objectives in the "global war on terror" — defeating the insurgents, democratizing Iraq, winning hearts and minds across the Middle East — remain to be achieved. And it's apparent that reports and images from Iraq, most notably the Abu Ghraib prison photos and the video of the Marine shooting a wounded man in Fallujah, aren't helping the American cause.

It's not so much that the media are untrustworthy — although many in the military might argue that they are — it's that the "press," from Al-Jazeera reporters to the humblest freelancer, is simply uncontrollable. And absent an enormous paradigm shift, that's not going to change.

But now, the military is preparing just such a paradigm shift. On Dec. 1, the Los Angeles Times revealed that in September the Pentagon had established a "strategic communications office" to wage information — or disinformation — warfare in Iraq. The Times reported that on Oct. 14 an-



Courtesy of Signal Corps

With Operation Fortitude in motion, U.S. assault troops huddled behind the protective front of their landing craft as it neared a beachhead on the northern coast of France on D-Day.

nouncement by the Marines of a seeming attack on Fallujah, carried on CNN, was, in fact, a fake-out of the enemy.

It's hard to argue against deceiving the enemy in wartime, but it must also be noted that such deceptions are soon uncovered by the media, which is to say, uncovered.

Of course, it's possible that the military has launched a hundred other Fortitude-like fakes that have gone unreported. But now we know — or we think we know — that the Pentagon plans to create a "director of central information" to control "strategic information." That new Pen-

tagon post is not to be confused with the "national intelligence director," the new slot created to oversee the CIA and other spy outfits — one thing's for sure.

But now that the directorate of information has been revealed, what does that revelation do to the American government's credibility? Is it really a good idea to have, in effect, a Ministry of Deception if its existence is known to the world? In the future, it might be harder for the enemy to know what's going on, and that's good. But it will surely be harder for Americans to know what's going on, and that's not so good.

James Pinkerton is a Newsday columnist.

## GIs also suffer wounds that medicine can't heal

BY ROBERT CORNEJO

Doesn't it figure that a second lieutenant got shot? I overheard a noncommissioned officer say to his buddy. It was the afternoon of Dec. 20, 1989, and I was being evacuated to a military hospital in Panama on board a troop-carrying special operations helicopter.

It was 15 years ago that I was wounded on the first day of Operation Just Cause, the U.S. invasion of Panama. Since that day, I haven't often recounted my experience to others, and I mention Panama now not to celebrate that war but to bring attention to those who return home wounded from Iraq or Afghanistan. Our soldiers today are trained to do everything that the military asks of them in combat except maybe two things: come home wounded from war and lead a life afterward.

As a young field artillery officer, I was part of the first wave of the 82nd Airborne task force that parachuted into Torrijos International Airport near Panama City at 2 a.m. on Dec. 20. Our mission was to assemble around the howitzers that had been air-dropped onto the airport ahead of us. After I met up with my unit and our guns, we were ordered to move from the airfield to a forward firing position to provide support for an infantry assault against the Panamanian Defense Forces.

Around noon our convoy of two howitzers, several trucks and a light tank departed the relative safety of the secure airport. To get our guns to the planned firing position near the Pacora River, our heavily armed group drove through the village of Cabuya. A couple of blocks short of the north end of town, two men dressed in civilian clothes and driving a small white car ambushed us with gunfire and grenades in a drive-by shooting. As the attackers accelerated through our halted

convoy, we returned fire. I slid off my truck, got into a prone position in the street and fired a few rounds at the ambushers. Then I was hit. I felt a sharp, stinging pain in my right hip, and my leg stiffened in a muscle spasm. A noncommissioned officer riding in the truck picked me up, and the convoy quickly moved out.

I had been shot by an M-16 bullet — most likely friendly fire that ricocheted off the street during the brief firefight, which had lasted at most a minute. Both Panamanians in the car were dead. Two of us were wounded.

Twenty-four hours later, I was back in the United States in a hospital bed at San Antonio's Brooke Army Medical Center. In the next few days, I underwent surgery on my hip and was transferred back to my home station at Fort Bragg, N.C. While I should have been happy to be recovering well, I wasn't. Instead, I was embarrassed

when I called my father in Virginia to tell him that I had been deployed to Panama and had returned to the States wounded.

On Christmas Day I watched TV coverage of the Panama invasion and began to replay the minute-long firefight in my mind over and over. I blamed myself for getting off the truck and onto the street. I was angry at myself for becoming the stereotypical lieutenant who gets himself wounded during his first combat experience. I wondered if I had failed my men by departing the battle early. I asked "what if?" again and again.

I am not in a position to speak for the wounded veterans of today. I can only assume that some of our current war wounded experience feelings similar to mine. I believe that most of these men and women are not ready to share their combat experience with others, as I do now. For a time, they may choose to deliberate on that moment they were wounded. For me, this routine con-

tinued for the better part of a year, until life's other concerns eventually displaced my internal debate.

The anniversary of the Panama invasion elicits personal memories for me. Others will have similar memories as they think back to the day they were wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan. Many of today's combat wounded will not be as lucky as I was, but will suffer permanent disability resulting from the devastating effect of modern insurgent weapons.

I don't think our military can ever train soldiers to prepare for coming home wounded or for dealing with life afterward. But I do think that we as Americans should keep in mind that most wounded veterans don't want unnecessary or extraordinary attention. What they are more likely to want is privacy and understanding while they come to grips with the moment they were hit.

Robert Cornejo is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



## Killed by pit bull

**CO** KIOWA — The owner of three pit bulls that fatally mauled a woman last year was sentenced to six years in prison.

Jacqueline McCuen had faced three to six years in prison after pleading guilty in September to owning a dangerous dog causing death.

McCuen, of Elbert County, was charged after the death of Jennifer Brooke, 40. Brooke had been walking outside to feed her horses when she was attacked by three dogs, which also attacked two men before they were shot and killed.

Seven months before Brooke's death, McCuen's dogs attacked a jogger, prosecutors said.

McCuen's boyfriend was also charged and was scheduled for trial next month.

## Death for attacking girl

**OH** CALDWELL — A man cried and apologized as a judge sentenced him to die for raping his girlfriend's 7-year-old daughter, beating her and drowning her in an abandoned well.

Fred Mundt Jr., 30, stopped short of admitting that he killed Brittany Hendrickson and said he will appeal. Mundt was convicted in December, and the judge followed the jury's recommendation that he be sentenced to death.

Brittany's mother, Misty Hendrickson, and her three children lived with Mundt in Lebanon.

She told authorities she left the children with Mundt while she played bingo. He first claimed the girl wandered away while he was asleep.

A psychologist testified in the trial's sentencing phase that Mundt told her he raped Brittany and considered taking her to a hospital. Instead he stuffed her in the well about a mile away and threw rocks at her until she stopped screaming.

## Bees cause road closure

**NV** LAS VEGAS — A truck carrying 12 million honeybees hit a wall on a highway ramp, dumping its load across the pavement shortly before the evening rush hour.

The truck was carrying 480 bee colonies, each with 25,000 insects, to California to pollinate the state's almond crop when it struck the wall.

The collision spilled the bees and gallons of honey onto the highway and forced troopers to close the southbound ramp between Interstate 15 and U.S. 95 for more than four hours.

State police believe the driver lost control on the curving ramp.

Authorities summoned beekeepers to help but decided capturing the bees alive would take too much time and money. Firefighters doused the insects with water to kill them.

## Bag of chips dispute

**VA** FREDERICKSBURG — A University of Mary Washington student has been arrested after a man was hit with a baseball bat during a dispute over a bag of chips.

Joseph Y. Fischer, a freshman, was charged with aggravated malicious wounding and assault and battery following the attack.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Fredericksburg police spokesman Jim Shellhorse said the incident occurred at an off-campus party at a home where Fischer lives following an argument over a bag of Doritos.

The victim was not available. The victim was not available.

Aggravated malicious wounding carries a penalty of 20 years to life in prison.

## Man convicted of theft

**HI** HONOLULU — An attorney who cheated the state out of more than \$12 million was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Jerold Chun, 56, had pleaded no contest to charges filed in connection with a scheme involving insurance claims stemming from Hurricane Iniki.

Chun's attorneys said in August that he had paid back the money he pocketed.

He was convicted of three counts of first-degree theft, one count of unlawful ownership or operation of a business and ten counts of money laundering.

## College offers new degree

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — The University of New Mexico says it will offer a bachelor's degree in Native American studies. Greg Cajete, director of the

school's Native American studies program, predicted 100 students will enroll either as majors or minors by 2006. UNM, which has about 3,000 American Indian students, created a minor in Native American studies in 1999.

## Mother arrested

**FL** ORLANDO — A woman was arrested on child abuse charges after her 3-year-old daughter was found dead in a filthy motel room where they lived with the woman's husband and five other children, authorities said.

The two adults were already serving four years probation because he used a belt to beat at least two children, including the girl who died, officials said.

Deputies found dirty diapers and trash littering the room at the extended-stay motel, and baby bottles containing moldy milk and what could have been maggots, said Orange County sheriff's spokeswoman Barbara Miller.

Kenya Hill, 27, called police and an emergency operator tried to give CPR instructions for little Kai Gaudin, but Hill told the operator it was too late, Miller said.

Kai, whose body was found on a bed, may have been dead for a day or two, authorities said. The Orange-Occola medical examiner was performing an autopsy.

## DEA denies pot request

**MA** AMHERST — The Drug Enforcement Administration has denied a request by a University of Massachusetts professor who wanted to grow marijuana for research.

The request by horticulturist Lyle Craker, who specializes in medicinal plants, was supported by Sens. John Kerry and Edward Kennedy.

The only lab in the country allowed to grow marijuana for research is at the University of Mississippi and Craker argued the Mississippi marijuana isn't strong enough or easily available.

Craker's hope is to grow a potent strain of marijuana and make it available to scientists.

## Increased threat of fire

**SD** RAPID CITY — Fire remains a threat in the Black Hills National Forest and adjoining prairies. Joe Lowe, the state wildland fire coordinator, said above-normal temperatures, lack of snow and low humidity increase the risk of fire. He said conditions are similar to late November 2003 when a fire burned 1,000 acres and threatened homes just north of Rapid City.

## CD/DVD piracy raid

**CA** LOS ANGELES — Authorities raided five music and movie disc production plants, confiscating truckloads of counterfeit CDs and DVDs and the equipment to make them, all worth tens of millions of dollars, authorities said.

The search warrants were served simultaneously at several companies in Los Angeles and Orange counties, authorities said. The names of the companies were withheld pending ongoing investigations.

The raid followed a six-month investigation.



**Fiery blaze** Firefighters could only watch as St. Mary's of Perpetual Health of Rosemont Catholic Church burned. The church is located in rural Warren County between Milo and Lacona in Iowa, and was a total loss.



**Taking a break** A mockingbird, the most widely known songbird in America and state bird of Texas, stands perched on a Christmas display set up by the Bereaved Parents Support Group at Bywaters Park in Paris, Texas.



## Working hard

**Brent Blaylock, 6, has a little trouble emptying his shovel while moving snow, in Solon Springs, Wis. Blaylock got a jacket full of snow for his good deed.**





**Protesting pooch** A pomeranian named Sugarbaby carries a sign for its owner, Darla Urbina, who is a Spanish teacher at Gateway Institute of Technology, during a rally for what St. Louis Public School teachers consider an unfair contract imposed on them by the district at Kiener Plaza in St. Louis.



**Charitable singer** Miranda Smith, 9, sings Christmas songs outside of Wal-Mart in Grand Forks, N.D., as shoppers pass by. Miranda wants to raise money to get a bulletproof vest for Lesko, a dog at the Grafton (N.D.) Police Department.



**Waiting in anticipation** Sierra May, right, and other students wait to visit Santa at the Mesa Mall in Grand Junction, Colo. This was May's first time to see Santa.

## Smuggler gets 30 years

**FL** MIAMI — A man who admitted smuggling more than 24 tons of cocaine into the United States from 1984 to 2000 was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison.

Alex Decubas, a Cuban-born naturalized American citizen, admitted helping run a small fleet of ships and boats, including a 236-foot Danish freighter, to carry cocaine into south Florida. He also allegedly built two submarines, one that was seized in Colombia and another that sank in a test off Colombia in 2002.

In guilty pleas entered in five indictments, Decubas also admitted laundering \$6.3 million in drug profits. He could have been sentenced to life in prison.

After working for the Julio Nasser David smuggling ring, which was dismantled in 1994 after \$189 million was seized in Swiss banks, Decubas worked with Colombia's North Coast cartel until his arrest last year.

## Emergency hoaxes

**VT** STOWE — A former volunteer firefighter is facing charges that he made a series of false 911 calls so he could watch fire engines race toward fabricated emergencies.

Donald Griggs, 19, has pleaded not guilty to charges of false public alarms and false reports to law-enforcement officials. He was released on conditions following his arraignment last week in Vermont District Court in Barre, said Evelyn Bailey, executive director of the Vermont Enhanced 911 Board.

Court documents say Griggs used a cell phone he found in a Morrisville parking lot to call the emergency phone number about 15 times between Nov. 21 and Dec. 8. The phone was not associated with a wireless-service provider, so the only number it could call was 911, Bailey said.

## Caskets hid marijuana

**OK** SALLISAW — Talk about your killer weed.

Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers found 610 pounds of marijuana hidden in caskets being hauled in a truck stopped near this eastern Oklahoma town.

The driver, Timothy G. Hynd, 26, and his passenger, Robert Dean Harper, told a trooper they were working for a Tucson, Ariz., casket company and their destination was Atlanta. They were pulled over for going 6 mph over the speed limit.

The marijuana was found after troopers were given permission to search the truck.

Hynd and Harper were charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and were freed on bond. Both men said they had no idea there was marijuana in their cargo.

## Not the smartest bet

**WA** ALGER — If you're going to settle that fiery football bar bet, at least be careful about who's around.

Three men who had been watching the Monday Night Football game earlier this month between Seattle and Dallas at the Alger Tavern in this Skagit County town stepped outside to settle up.

One of them had promised to burn his Seahawks' memorabilia if Seattle lost, which is exactly what

happened.

True to his word, the man walked outside, stripped off his jersey and hat, and lit them after on the tavern's walkway, the Skagit Valley Herald reported.

But a State Patrol sergeant drove by just at that moment and cited the trio — ages 22, 25 and 32 — for reckless burning. If convicted, they could face maximum penalties of a \$1,000 fine and 90 days in jail.

## Owner didn't violate law

**MT** BILLINGS — The owner of a mobile home park near here didn't violate state campaign laws when he promised his tenants their rents would go down if voters approved a \$13 million sewer bond, a state election official ruled. Linda Vaughney said there wasn't sufficient evidence to conclude that Ivan Andrick was offering an illegal direct financial incentive for renters to vote for the measure in February.

## Governor stays close

**MO** JEFFERSON CITY — Gov. Bob Holden won't move far when he leaves the Governor's Mansion next month. Holden said he's rented a house in Jefferson City and plans to remain in the capital at least until his sons finish the current school year. Holden's four-year term as governor ends at noon Jan. 10. He's had discussions with several prospective employers.

## Botulism poisoning

**FL** OAKLAND PARK — Four people paralyzed by botulism were injected with large doses of a raw, unapproved botulinum toxin that someone at their anti-wrinkle treatment clinic bought from a California laboratory, federal documents show.

The suspended doctor who administered the shots, Bach McComb, used the material as if it were lower-strength Botox, a derivative of botulinum toxin that is a federally approved medication for wrinkle control and other uses, federal agents said in court papers.

McComb and his girlfriend are among the four people who remain hospitalized after getting the shots.

Botulism poisoning is fatal in about 10 percent of cases. It usually paralyzes victims from the head down for several months until affected nerve endings regrow.

## Breast-feeding case

**ME** AUBURN — The Maine Human Rights Commission has cleared the manager of a Denny's Restaurant of allegations that he discriminated against a nursing mother by making inappropriate comments about her breasts.

In a 3-2 vote, the panel found no reasonable grounds to believe that discrimination had occurred. The vote went against the recommendation of the commission's investigator.

"I knew the truth would come out sooner or later," Marcel Deschaines said from the restaurant in Auburn, where he has worked for 15 years.

Stephanie York of Oakland filed the complaint alleging that Deschaines made several comments while she was breast-feeding her baby at Denny's on Nov. 21, 2003.

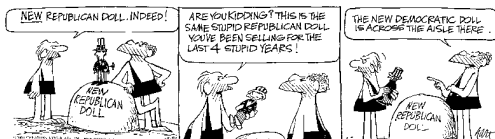
Stories and photos from wire services



Foxrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



Spider Man



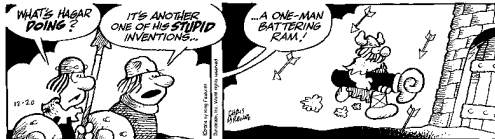
Blondie



Dilbert



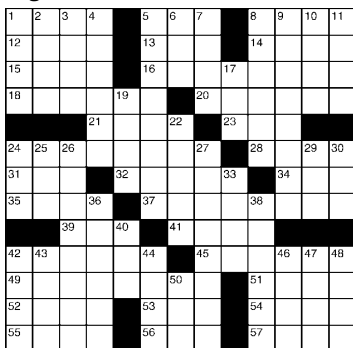
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



### Across

- 1 Counterfeit
- 5 Bankroll
- 8 Spill the beans
- 12 South American city
- 13 Freudian concept
- 14 Anger
- 15 Somewhere out there
- 16 Home
- 18 Handgun
- 20 Deflate, in a sense
- 21 Play area
- 23 People in general
- 24 Home
- 28 Pleasant
- 31 Computer button
- 32 Non-native Hawaiian
- 34 Year-end beverage
- 35 Campus bignig
- 37 Home
- 39 Blycreem quantity
- 41 Jodie Foster movie
- 42 Vinegary
- 45 Proverbs precursors
- 49 Home
- 51 Carriage
- 52 Hodgepodge
- 53 Pitch
- 54 Largest of the seven
- 55 Ollie's pal
- 56 Dash lengths
- 57 Crooned

### Down

- 1 Rebuff a masher
- 2 Stereo
- 3 arrangement
- 4 Constant sufferer
- 5 Literate and informed
- 6 Past
- 7 Extinct bird
- 8 Londoner or Liverpoolian
- 9 Pasta variety (Var.)
- 10 Kelp, e.g.
- 11 Harry's first lady
- 17 Follow
- 19 Solemn pledge
- 22 Overwhelm
- 24 Proof abbr.
- 25 Exploit
- 26 Collegiate community
- 27 Unexpected hits
- 29 Anti
- 30 34-Across ingredient
- 33 Right angles
- 36 Country
- 38 Peruvian pack
- 40 Pen name
- 42 Commotions
- 43 Future stallion
- 44 Give as an example
- 46 Sax-playing Simpson
- 47 Chow
- 48 Unforeseen hangup
- 50 Felon's flight

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



### 12-20

### CRYPTOQUIP

A Q E Q S M N R U A T Z ' T  
V E P X C E Z X C S , S X G M X G V F  
O C X P E P V S T E S Z N R C R A T  
M X U O X G Q F A Q Z R C R T Z .  
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF THERE'S  
SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT MOTHER TO  
FIND OUT, DO YOU SAY "MOM'S THE WORD"?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals N

# Tupperware parties too costly

**Dear Abby:** I would like to share my pet peeve with you. It's been invited to "sales parties" for kitchenware, beauty products, etc. I can't afford to spend money at these so-called parties because I have three children to feed.

I would prefer not to disclose my financial situation to every person who issues these invitations, which arrive sometimes on a weekly basis. I have tried to tell friends that I'm on an "outside order," and they either find out that I really don't have plans or try to sign me up for an "outside order." I have shared with a few friends that I am on a strict budget, and they reply with "just come and don't buy anything."

That's not a workable solution, because the consultants see the word "no" as a challenge and won't take "no" for an answer. Also, it's intimidating to see everyone else pull out their checkbooks. How can I get unin-

vited permanently?

— **Clare And my Friends in Albuquerque, N.M.**  
*Dear Can't: Real friends don't subject friends to embarrassment or use them to get special deals by promoting commercial products. Ignore the solicitations as you would any other, and don't feel guilty. If you're questioned, just say you weren't interested in buying — it's the truth.*

**Dear Abby**



**Dear Abby:** I recently attended several soccer practices for 6-year-olds. One boy on the team, "Timmy," is so obese he can barely run. His mother screams at him from the sidelines, giving him directions every few minutes.

Sometimes the poor child "runs" in the wrong direction and scores for the opposing team. (I personally believe he suffers from ADD.) Timmy said to his mother, "I can't run!" — and he can't. His large belly and huge

thighs prevent him from running.

One can see his frustration. After the game, each player is given a paper sack of refreshments. One time, it was a chocolate cupcake, a bag of chips and a cold drink. At the end of the game, after the snacks, Timmy ran to his mother. He was crying. She was talking on her cell phone. She said, "Here's 50 cents — go buy a candy bar." My heart aches for this boy.

— **Concerned Parent, Bloomington, Ind.**

**Dear Concerned:** Since you can't change Timmy's mother, speak to the coach. That's the only person the boy should be listening to during a game. Perhaps the mother will take guidance from the coach regarding a healthy diet and exercise regimen for her son. Another thing you might do is provide some healthy snacks for the players after the games, and organize the other moms to do the same.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69400, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**ZAUGE**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**APPYP**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**SNODEC**

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**URRUMM**

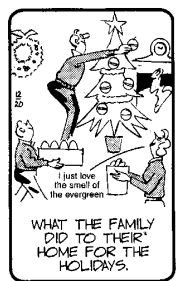
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**Answer:** "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" IT "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" (Answers tomorrow)

Saturdays | Jumbles: DEMON COACH CLAUSE MISERY  
Too many doughnuts may not be wholesome but they are — "HOLE SOME"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrinon



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

# Accusation jeopardizes friendship

**Dear Annie:** Yesterday, "Gina," my best friend of 27 years, accused me of looking in her wallet when she ran into her house to get something while I sat in her minivan. I did not go through her wallet.

In fact, I never even touched it. I swore to Gina that I didn't do anything, but she insists she saw me looking at her driver's license photo on the outside of her wallet.

But, Annie, she is mistaken. I had my own wallet in my lap and was looking through it, sorting out my receipts and cash. I'm sure she saw mine and thought it was hers.

I never would do anything to jeopardize our friendship. How can I prove to Gina that I never touched her wallet?

— **West Lafayette, Ind.**  
*Dear Indiana:* A good friend doesn't assume the worst about her pals, and then accuse them of lying when they offer a reason-

**Annie's Mailbox**



able explanation. She doesn't sound completely rational to us.

Since you value the friendship, the easiest way to remedy this is to apologize without admitting guilt. "Gina, I'm so sorry you thought I looked in your wallet. I would never intentionally risk our friendship. You mean too much to me."

**Dear Annie:** Re-

cently, our beloved mother passed away without leaving a will. During the last few years of her life, she gave most of her prized possessions to her children and grandchildren so she could watch us enjoy them.

Mom also told us that her home and remaining possessions were to be left to her youngest son, who lived with her for the last 10 years.

Those closest to her have abided by her wishes. However, one granddaughter has called repeatedly, asking about the estate and

wanting to get her hands on the items left to my brother.

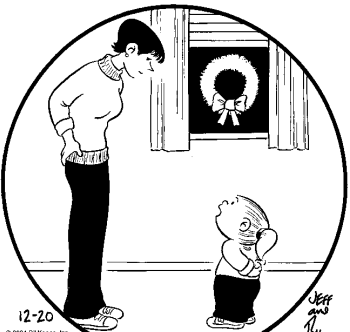
We expect there will be a long legal battle over this selfish girl's actions. Now we must deal with a fight that would have shamed and disgusted her grandmother. I hope this letter serves to encourage anyone who hasn't written a will to do so.

— **Disappointed in Bakersfield, Calif.**

**Dear Bakersfield:** Greed can be a powerful motivator, but if this niece received mementos from her grandmother equal to what other grandchildren received, there's no reason for her to believe she is entitled to more. Is there anyone who can explain to this misguided soul that she is creating a tremendous amount of ill-will for what ultimately may be very little gain? No amount of money can replace a loving family.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus



**"Is it too late to ask Santa to bring me a baby sister?"**



**Dennis the Menace**



**© Gary Larson**

**The Far Side**



**Non Sequiter**















# Suns hold on for Phoenix's battle of Bob's best

BY TIM KORTE

The Associated Press

SEATTLE—Ring up another road victory for the streaking Phoenix Suns.  
Joe Johnson had 24 points and 10 rebounds, Shawn Marion added 22 points and Steve Nash scored 21 points in the Seattle SuperSonics 112-110 in Friday night in a showdown between the NBA's top two teams.

"That was a great game," Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said. "There was a lot of scoring and a lot of plays. We held tough like we've been doing most of the year. We made some stops at the end. It was a great, great game."

Phoenix won its seventh straight, as well as its longest straight on the road to extend the team's seventh road winning streak since 1997-98. At 10-1, the Suns have the best away record in the league.

It wasn't just what Phoenix did. It was how the Suns did it.

Johnson did the dirty work, scoring in the second quarter to reel in Seattle's 12-point early lead. Nash dished out 12 assists with only three turnovers.

Marion hit a big basket or two. Amare Stoudemire was a spinning, soaring, shooting highlight reel. And don't forget Quinton Richardson, who scored 18 and put the Suns ahead 105-103 on a three-point play with 1:10 remaining.

Stoudemire added 20 points and nine rebounds for Phoenix, which erased a seven-point deficit in the final 3 minutes and became the first club to win 20+ without a foul, Nash said. The Suns in an exciting fourth quarter.

"We don't want to live that way, but it's nice to be able to come back from being down," Nash said. "We've got a big heart, but it's also talent. You've got to use those weapons."

Phoenix (20-3) led 107-104 when Seattle's Luke Ridnour missed a three-point try from the right wing with 11.9 seconds to play.

The Sonics (18-5) had just moved the ball around the perimeter for three decent looks, but Rashard Lewis missed an inside try and Vladimir Radmanovic missed a three-point during the possession.

"It was a hard-fought battle," said Ray Allen, who scored 32 points on 15-for-26 shooting. "The ball didn't go down for us in the third. I know I missed a layup that would have put us in a different situation. But when I draw the final conclusion, they beat us."

Marion appeared to seal the victory with two late free throws. Allen bounced in a three-point with 4 seconds to play to get Seattle within 109-107. Nash was fouled and hit both shots to give Phoenix a 111-107 lead.



Phoenix Suns guard Steve Nash, left, passes to teammate Amare Stoudemire (30) during a game. **Seattle SuperSonics' Reggie Evans (30) in the second quarter Friday in Seattle.**

The Suns needed every point too, because Lewis took an inbound pass and hit a three-point with 0.5 seconds on the clock. Marion was fouled and added one more free throw to wrap things up.

Unfortunately for Seattle, a few misses and some defensive lapses were the difference.

"We had this game under control," coach Nate McMillan said. "If we make stops and not break down on the defensive end, we have a chance to win. Defensively,

we just broke down that last minute. They made the plays. We didn't."

Lewis scored 25 points, while Reggie Evans added 13 points and 14 rebounds. Radmanovic scored 14 for the Sonics.

According to the Elias Sports Bureau, this was the first meeting in almost five years between teams with better than .800 records after 20 games. The Los Angeles Lakers beat the Portland Trail Blazers 90-87 on Feb. 29, 2000.

Even stranger, neither the Suns nor Sonics reached the playoffs last season.

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	10	12	.455	1st
Boston	10	12	.455	1st
Philadelphia	8	14	.364	2nd
Toronto	10	12	.455	1st
New Jersey	15	7	.682	1st

Southeast Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	18	7	.727	1st
Orlando	15	10	.600	2nd
Atlanta	4	19	.174	13th
Cleveland	4	19	.174	13th
Detroit	10	12	.455	1st
Indiana	12	10	.545	1st
Milwaukee	6	16	.269	9th
Chicago	15	7	.682	1st

### Western Conference

Southwest Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Dallas	10	14	.417	8th
Memphis	10	14	.417	8th
Phoenix	15	9	.625	4th
Portland	10	14	.417	8th

Northwest Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	15	9	.625	4th
Minnesota	15	9	.625	4th
Utah	10	14	.417	8th
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th

Pacific Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Central Division				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Saturday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Sunday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Monday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

### New Orleans Hornets at Los Angeles Lakers

Friday				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	10	12	.455	1st
Los Angeles	10	12	.455	1st
Phoenix	15	9	.625	4th
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Saturday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Sunday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Monday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Tuesday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Wednesday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Thursday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Friday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Saturday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Sunday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Monday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

### Portland Trail Blazers, Hawks 84

Friday				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	10	12	.455	1st
Atlanta	10	12	.455	1st
Phoenix	15	9	.625	4th
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Saturday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Sunday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Monday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Tuesday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Wednesday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Thursday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Friday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

Saturday's Games				
Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	20	4	.833	1st
San Antonio	15	9	.625	4th
Lakers	10	14	.417	8th
Golden State	7	17	.292	13th
Detroit	10	14	.417	8th

...19,984 (19,600).

**Grizzlies 84**

son 8-19 8-8 26, Scalas 1-4 2-2 4, Kidd 7-13

# Looking to rebuild, Nets acquire Carter

BY TOM CANAVAN  
The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — After dismantling the team in the summer and aggravating Jason Kidd, the New Jersey Nets began the job of rebuilding as well as repairing their relationship with their best player.

They started by acquiring five-time All-Star Vince Carter from the Toronto Raptors on Friday for center Alonzo Mourning, forwards Aaron Williams and Eric Williams, and two first-round draft picks.

While Kidd said Carter can "change the look of not just the franchise, but the game," the Nets' star guard did not seem overjoyed with the deal.

"Business always gets in the way of basketball," he said. "My job is to go out there and perform on the court and get some W's."

Nets owner Bruce Ratner was a little more excited.

"Vince provides an immediate impact and gives our fans an electrifying team to watch every night," Ratner said. "Most importantly, we are committed to winning."



Jason Kidd, left, and Vince Carter are now playing for the same team after the New Jersey Nets acquired Carter from Toronto.

There were many who doubted that after the Nets sent All-Star forward Keyon Martin to Denver in what was seen as a cost-saving move by the team's new owners. Shooting guard Kerry Kittles later was traded to the Clippers and well-liked Lucious Harris was released.

Kidd wasn't happy about those developments, but conceded the Nets are developing

improve the roster.

"You don't worry about what happened in the past," he said after Friday's 89-84 loss at Memphis. "That's what the Nets are trying to do, and I'm trying to do the same thing."

Martin, Kittles and Harris were key members of a team that went to the NBA Finals in 2002 and '03.

The moves not only decimated the team, they left Kidd hoping to be traded.

Carter and Richard Jefferson playing his wings might soften that approach, but Kidd would still tolerate otherwise, he said.

Coach Lawrence Frank was delighted to have Carter on his bench.

"He's one of those guys when his team gets the ball in his hands at the end of the game, as an opposing coach, it makes you nervous because he can get wherever he wants on the floor," Frank said.

The trade essentially sends three players over 30 to Canada for a 27-year-old who is among the league's best when healthy.

Carter, whose contract runs through the 2008 season, and Williams must pass physicals for the deal to become official. They have 48 hours to report to their new teams.

Mourning, who had a kidney transplant in December, does not have to pass a physical. Thorn isn't sure whether Mourning will report to the Raptors, but the deal is not contingent on that.

Carter comes to the Nets with career averages of 24.3 points, 5.2 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 1.3 steals and 1.03 blocks in 403 games over seven NBA seasons.

Carter, who was in Indianapolis, was excited about the deal, said Thorn, adding the swingman probably won't play until Tuesday in Charlotte. Carter has been out with a strained left Achilles' tendon.

Thorn said the Nets still have a long way to go to make the playoffs, but that if they make the postseason they would be a formidable foe.

"I think it's a statement from ownership that they are willing to spend on a quality player," he said. "We are not here to wait three or four years and hope our choices pan out."

The two first-round draft picks the Nets sent to Toronto were acquired in the Martin deal. They were Philadelphia's first-round pick in 2005 and Denver's first-round pick in 2006.

## Knicks rally to top 76ers in OT

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Allan Houston would rather be taking the clutch shots than thinking about them. After missing most of the season coming back from an injury, Houston made one of the biggest baskets yet for New York.

Nothing about watching you picture yourself making big shots," he said.

Houston hit the tying three-point shot with 0.4 seconds left in regulation, Kurt Thomas scored six points in overtime, and the New York Knicks rallied from a 19-point deficit to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 113-107 on Friday night.

"Allan Houston's shot is money. That's why we got him the ball," Thomas said.

Thomas opened overtime with a basket, and the Sixers never led again. Jerome Williams had a three-point play, and Thomas and Jamaal Crawford sealed the win with four free throws in the final 12 seconds.

Stephon Marbury led the Knicks with 27 points, Houston had 15, Williams 13, and Thomas 14 points in 18 rebounds.

Kenny Thomas scored a season-high 26 points, and Allen Iverson had 24 for Philadelphia, which had a three-game winning streak snapped.

"We just collapsed. It's as simple as that," Iverson said.

After playing only six minutes in the first three quarters, Jerome Williams played the entire fourth quarter and scored eight points. Stephon Marbury scored 10 points in the fourth.

Pacers 89, Raptors 86: At In-

dianapolis, Jamaal Tinsley scored 17 of his 22 points in the second half to lead Indiana.

Rookie center David Harrison added a career-high 22 points and had seven rebounds, and Jeff Foster had 10 points and 18 rebounds for the Pacers, who won their second straight after a seven-game losing streak.

**Grizzlies 89, Nets 84:** Jason Williams had a season-high 27 points and six assists to lead host Memphis over short-handed New Jersey.

Richard Jefferson, who had 18 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter, got the Nets within 85-84 with 16 seconds left when he followed Jason Kidd's missed layup. But four free throws by James Posey in the final 12 seconds sealed Memphis' victory.

**Trail Blazers 100, Hawks 84:** At Atlanta, Zach Randolph scored 23 points, and Darius Miles added 20 to lead Portland past Atlanta.

Derek Anderson added 15 points for Portland, which broke a two-game losing streak.

**Celtics 114, Jazz 106:** Gary Payton scored a season-high 27 points and added 11 assists to lift the host Celtics.

The Celtics hit 56 percent of their shots to take a 58-40 lead at halftime and stretched that to as much as 21, leading 84-63 on two free throws by Marcus Banks with 1:36 left in the third quarter. The closest Utah came after that was Carlos Boozer's first time with 3:56 to play that made it 97-89.

**Timberwolves 113, Clippers 86:** At Minneapolis, Wally Szczerbiak scored a season-high 29 points, including 11 in the third quarter.

Szczerbiak pumped in seven crucial points in the third quarter, part of an 11-1 run that gave the Timberwolves a 58-43 lead. Minnesota stretched its lead throughout the fourth and cruised to its largest margin of victory this season.

**Spurs 83, Hornets 67:** At New Orleans, Tim Duncan had 19 points and 12 rebounds to lead San Antonio to its third straight victory and 11th win in 13 games.

Rookie Beno Udrih scored 12 points in 18 minutes, and Manu Ginobili and Tony Parker each added 10 points for the Spurs. Robert Horry hit three three-pointers during a key run in the second half, helping San Antonio extend its lead to double figures.

**Rockets 100, Warriors 83:** Tracy McGrady had 27 points and nine rebounds, and Yao Ming added 15 points and a season-high 17 rebounds. Bob Sara just missed his third career triple-double with 24 points, nine assists and eight rebounds for host Houston, and sat out much of the fourth quarter with the Rockets leading by as many as 23.

**Heat 107, Nuggets 100:** Dwyane Wade scored 25 points, and Shaquille O'Neal had 20 to help Miami win its seventh straight.

The defeat was doubly tough for the visiting Nuggets, who lost forward Carmelo Anthony to a sprained left ankle.

**Wizards 120, Lakers 116 (OT):** At Los Angeles, Gilbert Arenas scored 37 points, Larry Hughes had 31, and Washington won for the first time on the Lakers' floor in almost 12 years.

The Wizards overcame a 36-point, 14-assist, 10-rebound performance by Kobe Bryant.

## Mavs' fans donate seats to troops

The Associated Press

DALLAS — About 140 U.S. soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan were to sit outside at a Dallas Mavericks game Saturday night, thanks to season-ticket holders who offered their seats in a show of gratitude.

"It's a small way for me to show some appreciation for what they've done for us," ticket holder

Jim Leslie said. "I still don't think it's enough."

The soldiers from Brooke Army Medical Center near San Antonio will fly to Dallas — on a chartered jet donated by American Airlines — to see the Mavericks play the Atlanta Hawks. They will be treated to free food and drink and have their pictures taken with Mavericks players.

Team owner Mark Cuban said

in an e-mail: "This is a chance for these servicemen and women to feel the admiration and respect of 20,000 people, reinforcing for them that we as a nation feel grateful for what they have done for us."

**Snow suspended one game**

CLEVELAND — Cavaliers backup point guard Eric Snow was suspended for one game without pay for his sideline confrontation with Cleveland coach Paul Silas during Thursday night's loss in Detroit.

Snow will sit out Saturday night's game against the Boston Celtics. The suspension will cost him one game's paycheck, about \$54,000.

On Thursday, Snow was upset when Silas pulled him from the game in the second quarter after a turnover on an eight-second clock and he cursed while walking to Cleveland's bench.

THE **TIRE RACK**  
www.tirerack.com

**Shopping for Tires Has Never Been Easier!**

At tirerack.com, we give you all the tools you'll need to purchase the right tire at the right price...no matter where you are in the world.

- The largest tire and wheel inventory you'll find anywhere.
- Sortable search results based on your vehicle. Compare tires, too.
- Tire info includes test and survey results, specs, warranty info.
- View Best-Sellers for your vehicle.
- Tire Decision Guide to help you find the best tire for your needs.
- U.S. Military/Government APO shipment available. Pricing available online.

Questions? Email: sales@tirerack.com

7101 Van Ness Parkway  
San Francisco, CA 94133  
©2004 The Tire Rack



www.tirerack.com  
Toll Free: 1-800-231-5353  
Fax: 916-228-7917

# Agent: Clement, Boston reach 3-year deal

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Right-hander Matt Clement and the Boston Red Sox are closing in on a three-year contract worth \$25 million, according to the pitcher's agent.

The defending World Series champions targeted the hard-throwing free agent after losing Pedro Martinez to the New York Mets.

## MLB briefs

"A very important issue with Matt was being with a team that has a very good chance of being in the postseason for all three years," Barry Axelrod, told The Associated Press on Saturday.

"It's in essence all done," he added.

A Red Sox spokesman did not return a call from The Associated Press. The team usually does not comment until the player passes a physical, which Axelrod said could take place early next week.

Clement was 9-13 with a 3.68 ERA and 190 strikeouts in 181 innings last season with the Chicago Cubs. The 30-year-old Clement is 69-75 with a 4.34 ERA in his career with the San Diego Padres, Florida Marlins and Cubs.

Clement was being sought by several teams after Martinez went to the Mets, Carl Pavano signed with the New York Yankees, and Tim Lincecum was traded to the Seattle Mariners.

The Red Sox had laid the groundwork for the deal with Clement in case Martinez left, Axelrod said.

"They were in it all along (but) it heated up with Boston after Pedro went to the Mets," Axelrod said. "They were prepared for it. It wasn't panic mode or anything like that. They were consistently in the mix."

Martinez signed a four-year, \$53 million

deal with the Mets, leaving the Red Sox after seven seasons.

The Red Sox on Wednesday signed left-hander David Wells to a two-year, \$8 million deal that would be worth \$18 million if he reaches all his incentives. The team has shown little interest in re-signing free agent pitcher Derek Lowe.

## D.C. officials meeting to save team

WASHINGTON — Two prominent politicians who will have a significant say in whether the Expos move to the nation's capital to meet Monday to try to save the suddenly wobbly deal.

Mayor Anthony Williams will meet with Linda Cropp, chair of the District of Columbia Council, who earlier this week introduced an amendment that could endanger the move.

The proposed move hinges on the city having a stadium financing package acceptable to a major league baseball in place by Dec. 31.

Cropp's amendment to the mayor's stadium financing plan requires that at least half the stadium funding come from a private source. The amendment was approved late Tuesday night.

Major League Baseball, calling the amendment "wholly unacceptable," responded to the adoption of Cropp's provision by shutting down the team's business and promotional operations.

Williams and Cropp will meet Monday at Cropp's request, her spokesman Mark Johnson, confirmed Friday. Cropp has asked for a meeting with major league officials "as soon as possible," Johnson said.

Several private financiers have pitched funding schemes that could pay for as much as the full cost of building the stadium, city officials said.

## Alfonseca rejoins Marlins

MIAMI — Free-agent reliever Antonio Alfonseca signed a one-year contract Friday to rejoin his former team, the Florida Marlins, who revised their offer when a routine physical disclosed a herniated disc in the right-hander's back.

Alfonseca will receive the league minimum \$300,000 and can earn an additional \$1.7 million in incentives, said his agent, Juan Iglesias. The deal includes an option for a second year. Alfonseca pitched in 65 games next season.

Alfonseca's 2003 season was ended by back surgery, but he was healthy in 2004. Last season, Alfonseca appeared in a career-high 79 games for Atlanta and had a career-best ERA of 2.57. He pitched for Florida from 1997 to 2001.

## Perez signs one-year contract

CHICAGO — The Chicago White Sox agreed to terms with outfielder Tim Lincecum on a \$1 million, one-year deal Friday, avoiding arbitration.

Perez hit .246 with five homers and 40 RBIs last season, his first with the White Sox after being acquired from the New York Yankees. He finished the season hitting .397 with runners in scoring position. He played 49 games in right field, 25 in center and 12 in left, and made 69 starts.

Perez has a career average of .269 with 23 homers and 154 RBIs in five seasons with the New York Mets and White Sox.

## Renteria officially joins Red Sox

BOSTON — Edgar Renteria passed a physical and signed a four-year contract with the Boston Red Sox on Friday, bringing the All-Star shortstop to the World Series champions.

The Red Sox announced Renteria's re-

ported \$40 million deal at a news conference at Fenway Park.

Renteria's agreement includes a team option for 2009, when he will be 34.

In nine seasons — three with Florida and six with St. Louis — Renteria has won two Gold Gloves and been on four All-Star teams.

## Martinez continues to lash out at Red Sox for not re-signing him

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — Pedro Martinez returned home Friday and bashed the team he led to a World Series title. He knocked the Boston Red Sox for their front-office moves and negotiating tactics, and predicted a rough season awaits.

"They will field the best bad team in baseball history," Martinez said at a news conference Friday.

The three-time Cy Young Award winner said the Mets "have shown more respect in days than Boston did in seven years."

Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein discounted the comments, calling the situation "a heat-of-the-moment type thing. I choose to look at the man, not one comment."

Red Sox principal owner John Henry said the club "offered Pedro exactly what he said it would take to sign him" when team officials visited Martinez in the Dominican Republic on Dec. 8.

"Our organization went out of our way to treat Pedro with the greatest respect over the past three years. I am surprised and very disappointed by the continuing negative comments in that regard," Henry said Friday in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

"Nevertheless, I wish him great success with the Mets."

# Teams still working out details of Johnson trade

BY BEN WALKER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The megadeal involving Randy Johnson, Shawn Green and Javier Vazquez grew to 10 players Saturday, with the New York Yankees, Arizona Diamondbacks and Los Angeles Dodgers hoping to present the proposed trade to the commissioner's office soon for approval.

Pitchers Kaz Ishii, Mike Klop-

ve and Brandon Weeden are now part of the swap, a baseball official told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The teams were aiming to put the whole deal down on paper this weekend and give it to the commissioner's office perhaps by Monday.

The transaction requires permission because it involves more than \$1 million. As it stands, the Yankees would pay \$2 million of Ishii's contract.

Plus, there might be a spinoff to the deal. There's speculation the Dodgers might get Vazquez from the Yankees and then trade the pitcher to the Chicago White Sox.

Johnson remains the centerpiece of the trade, with the Yankees trying to get the five-time Cy Young winner from Arizona. New York also would acquire Ishii, a left-hander who went 13-8 with a 4.71 ERA last season for Los Angeles.

Johnson has a no-trade clause, but wants to play for the Yankees. Green also has a no-trade provision, and the Dodgers outfielder has not yet waived it to clear the way for him to move to Arizona.

The Diamondbacks might be able to get Green to come to the desert, though, since his former agent, Jeff Moorad, is Arizona's new chief executive officer.

"I think Shawn always envisioned finishing his career with the Dodgers," agent Greg Genske said. "But if a trade is put in place, he's going to consider all of his options."

If the deal goes to the commissioner's office, the Yankees plan to ask for a 72-hour window to negotiate a contract extension with Johnson. The 41-year-old lefty is owed \$16 million in the last year of his contract.

Green might use that same time frame to see if he can work an extension with the Diamondbacks. He is set to make \$16 mil-

lion in 2005, after slumping this past season to .266 with 28 home runs and 96 RBIs.

The Diamondbacks and Dodgers would receive four players in the trade, while the Yankees would get a pair of pitchers.

Koplove, who went 4-4 with a 4.05 ERA in 76 relief appearances with Arizona, would go to Los Angeles with Vazquez. The Dodgers also would get two top prospects from the Yankees, catcher Dioner Navarro and third baseman Eric Duncan.

Arizona would wind up with Green and pitchers Brad Penny, Thoeny Brazoban and Weeden. All of them played in the Dodgers' system last season.

Weeden was the Yankees' top draft pick in 2002 and was traded to Los Angeles with Jeff Weaver before last winter's trade that sent Kevin Brown to New York.

The Dodgers had a couple of things to clear up, too.

After losing free agents Adrian Beltré and Steve Finley, Los Angeles might be reluctant to trade away its lone remaining power hitter. Plus, there's a money matter: Vazquez is due \$33.5 million over the next three years and the Dodgers might want the Yankees to pick up some of that cost.

Johnson was 16-14, a record skewed by playing for a team that could not run and hit 11 games. He led the majors with 290 strikeouts, was second with a 2.60 ERA and pitched a perfect game against Atlanta.



Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Randy Johnson was waiting to find out whether he'll be staying in Arizona or moving to New York.

## THE TIRE RACK®

www.tirerack.com

### Shopping for Tires Has Never Been Easier!

At tirerack.com we give you all the tools you'll need to purchase the right tire at the right price... no matter what you drive.



**TIRE DECISION GUIDE:** If you need help finding the right tire, our new Tire Decision Guide is an online decision-making tool designed to guide you to the tire performance category that accurately fits your needs.

**BEST SELLERS:** Shop for tires from our list of Best Sellers for your vehicle.

**SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON:** Compare tires of a specific size or for a specific vehicle side-by-side using our Tire Compare feature.

7321 Varden Parkway  
South Bend, IN 46708  
©2004 The Tire Rack



www.tirerack.com  
800.333.3333  
FAX: 514.596.0707

# Kentucky rally shocks Louisville

Wildcats overcome poor play, 16-point deficit; Wake, Arizona win with late baskets

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Patrick Sparks sank three free throws with less than a second left to cap his 25-point performance and complete ninth-ranked Kentucky's big comeback for a 60-58 victory over No. 13 Louisville and coach Rick Pitino on Saturday.

The Wildcats (7-1), who trailed 32-16 at halftime, were down 58-57 after Larry O'Bannon hit two free throws for Louisville with 15.2 seconds to go.

Kentucky coach Tubby Smith called timeout with 4.8 seconds left to set up the decisive play.

Sparks inbounded the ball, then received a pass in the corner. He pump-faked, then jumped to shoot a three-pointer and was fouled by Louisville forward Ellis Miles.

The buzzer sounded an instant later.

After official J.B. Caldwell and referee Gerald Boudreaux checked a TV replay, Sparks stepped to the free-throw line with 6.6 seconds on the clock.

Sparks, a 71 percent career shooter from the line, coolly swished all three shots. O'Bannon's desperation heave from half-court wasn't close, and the Wildcats snapped a two-game losing streak to their archrivals and former coach Pitino.

Pitino coached Kentucky from 1989 through 1997, winning the 1996 NCAA championship. After a stint with the NBA's Boston Celtics, he took over at Louisville in 2001.

O'Bannon scored 16 to lead Louisville (6-2).

The Cardinals' defense dominated the game until Sparks carried the Cats back in the final five minutes.

The Western Kentucky transfer hit his fifth three-pointer with 4:45 left and converted a three-point play with 2:55 remaining to shrink a 10-point deficit to four. Little-used walk-on Ravi



Kentucky's Patrick Sparks sinks the last of three free throws with 0.6 seconds remaining as the Wildcats came back to beat Louisville 60-58.

Moss drew Kentucky to within one with a three-pointer from the corner with 2:07 to play.

Two free throws by Kelema Azubuike gave Kentucky a 55-54 lead, its first since the score was 5-4.

The Cardinals went four minutes without a basket until Francisco Garcia banked in a drive with 54 seconds left. Azubuike an-

swered with a layup 20 seconds later to put Kentucky up 57-56.

O'Bannon drew a blocking foul call with 15 seconds left, and Smith protested by pounding the scorer's table and nearly falling down as he stomped the floor.

But Sparks had the answer, handing Pitino only his second December loss in four seasons at Louisville.

Louisville shut down Kentucky's offense early with a sticky, trapping zone defense. The Cardinals went on an 11-0 run during Kentucky's eight-minute scoring drought.

The Cardinals — with no active player taller than 6-foot-8 — dominated the taller Wildcats inside in the first half, outscoring them 18-6 and outrebounding them 22-13. The flustered Wildcats missed 19 of 24 shots from the field (21 percent) in the first 20 minutes.

Louisville freshman Juan Palacios, who had 11 points in the first half, went to the bench with 17:16 left in the game when he was poked in the left eye going for a rebound. He did not return.

After Palacios departed, the Cardinals allowed Kentucky to stay close with sloppy play of their own. Sparks sank two three-pointers after consecutive Louisville turnovers to draw the Cats within 48-44 with just under seven minutes remaining.

**No. 6 Wake Forest 89, No. 14 Texas 88:** At Winston-Salem, N.C., sophomore Chris Paul had 23 points and a career-high 12 assists and Eric Williams added 19 points for Wake Forest (9-1). Kenton Paulino missed an 18-foot jumper just before the buzzer that would have won it for the Longhorns (7-2).

Vytas Danelius, banished to the bench in the previous game, gave the Demon Deacons the lead for good with a reverse layup in traffic with about 3½ minutes left. The hosts made six of eight free throws down the stretch to seal it.

P.J. Tucker led the Longhorns with 27 points and 13 rebounds and Brad Bruckman finished with 17 points.

Paul hit two layups to give Wake Forest a 77-76 lead.

Four straight points, capped by Tucker's layup, gave Texas an 80-77 lead. A dunk by Williams cut it to one, setting the stage for Danelius' layup.

**No. 15 Arizona 48, Marquette 43:** At Milwaukee, Arizona, with

leading scorer Salim Stoudamire benched, relied on Chris Rodgers' 16 points and key late layup.

Arizona coach Luke Olson didn't say why he sat Stoudamire, who was coming off a career-low one field-goal attempt in a 50-62 win over Utah last week. It was Stoudamire's third scoreless game in the 101 he's played at Arizona.

Neither team scored much Saturday, combining for only three field goals over the last nine minutes. Arizona (7-2) hadn't been held to so few points since a 50-41 loss to Alabama in the 1985 NCAA tournament.

Rodgers' crucial layup came in the final minute when he blew past Steve Novak into an open lane. Hassan Adams added 14 points for the visitors, including two free throws with 4.1 seconds left.

**No. 19 George Washington 85, Towson 69:** At Washington, D.C., Pope Mensah-Bonsu scored 15 points and Ricky Lucas added 13 of his season-high 14 points in the second half as George Washington (7-1) won its seventh straight.

Omar Williams scored 10 of his 12 points in the first 10 minutes of the second half, and finished with eight rebounds.

Lawrence Hamm led Towson (3-7) with 18 points.

**No. 21 Michigan St. 63, Delaware St. 45:** At East Lansing, Mich., Chris Hill had 14 points, including four three-pointers, helping Michigan State (6-2) get by Delaware State (2-6).

Kelvin Torbert added 12 points and Shannon Brown had 10 for the sluggish Spartans, who struggled after last Saturday's 25-point victory over Stanford.

Jahshia Blunt had 11 points for the Hornets.

Michigan State was trailing 22-17 late in the first half when Hill scored five points to key a 10-0 run that won the final seven points of the half and the first five of a 10-3 run after the break.

**Reliable Aircraft Towing Tractors and Road Sweepers Manufacturer. Meet Korea's No. 1 Manufacturer with worldwide clientele !**



Our specialty is special purpose vehicles including R&D, manufacturing & sales, maintenance & after-sales of Aircraft Towing Tractors, Runway Sweepers and Road Sweepers. Our aircraft towing tractors are reliable and guaranteed to comply with US military specifications.

**SHINJEONG Development Co. Comm. 82-52-254-1673**  
Email: shinjeon@chol.com Visit us at [www.sjmotor.com](http://www.sjmotor.com)

**SHINJEONG**  
development co.



## Local scoreboard

## Osan Pacificwide Open Holiday Basketball Tournament

At Osan Fitness and Sports Center, Osan Air Base, South Korea  
Day 1 standings  
Men's Pool A  
Anderson Air Force Base, Guam 1-0  
Osan Air Base, South Korea 1-0  
Camp Humphreys, South Korea 0-1  
Suwon Air Base, South Korea 0-1  
Seoul American High School 0-1

Saturday's games  
Osan 73, Camp Humphreys 68  
Anderson 120, Seoul American 65  
Camp Humphreys 70, Suwon 66  
Men's Pool B  
Spotlight, Okinawa 1-0  
Yongsan Garrison, South Korea 1-0  
Osan American High School, South Korea 1-0  
Kunsan Air Base, South Korea 0-1

Saturday's games  
Spotlight 63, Kunsan 62  
Yongsan 110, Osan American 44  
Women's Pool  
Osan Air Base, South Korea 1-0  
Camp Humphreys, South Korea 1-0  
Kunsan Air Base, South Korea 0-0  
Suwon Air Base, South Korea 0-0  
Yongsan Garrison, South Korea 0-1  
Seoul American High School 0-2

Saturday's games  
Osan 66, Seoul American 45  
Camp Humphreys 71, Seoul American 70  
Kunsan 54, Yongsan 43

## High school

Japan girls basketball  
Thursday  
Yokota 68, Nike C. Kinicki 59  
At Yokota Air Base, Japan  
Kinicki 19 17 13 19-59  
Yokota 17 14 15 22-49  
Leading scorers: Yokota, Andrevia Thomas 22, Victoria Sanders 17, Charlotte Taylor 14, Kinicki, Howell 10, Leading rebounder: Yokota, Andrevia Thomas 12.

## 16 teams expected for Taegu Christmas tournament

Stars and Stripes

CAMP WALKER, South Korea — As many as 16 teams are expected to take part in next week's Taegu Post-Level Christmas Basketball Tournaments, including Army teams throughout Korea and Taegu American School's girls.

Tournament director Darryl Chandler announced the dates as Dec. 26-29 at the Kelly Fitness and Sports Center at Camp Walker and Taegu American School's gym on Camp George.

Taegu Camps Humphreys, Carroll, Walker, Red Cloud and Casey men's teams have indicated interest, as have Suwon Air Base and Yongsan Garrison. The women's field should feature Suwon, Yongsan, Carroll, Casey, Humphreys and Taegu American.

Entry fee is \$100. Entry deadline is Monday. For information, contact Chandler at DSN 764-4848 or e-mail chandler@korea.army.mil.

# Something for everybody in Osan

## Players drawn to hoop invitational for different reasons

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — There was a little something to be had for everybody playing on the first day of the 2004 Osan Pacificwide Open Holiday Basketball Tournament.

One undermanned team, Spotlight of Okinawa, overcame mountainous odds. One underdog, Seoul American High School's girls team, learned valuable lessons in a one-point loss.

Others looked to the 15-team, six-day open tournament as a possible launching pad for a shot to play higher-level basketball. All play high-school teams as it as a chance to gain valuable experience.

There were even a couple of homecomings, of sorts, for former Pacific high school stars now toiling for post-level teams.

For Spotlight, putting a team on the court was considered miraculous, as eight of its 13 players were left on Okinawa because of duty commitments.

Yet there was, taking a late six-point lead, then hanging on to edge Korea's Kunsan Wolf Pack 65-62.

"It was a gut-check time for five guys who really wanted to play," point guard Howard Reed said. "We knew the odds were against us. So, the plan was to just come here, have fun and play hard."

For Seoul American's girls, the idea was to gain as much experience as they could, figuring they would likely be outmanned and outgunned by bigger, faster and more physical women.

But against the Camp Humphreys Bulldogs, the Falcons engaged in a see-saw battle that featured 12 lead changes and 12 ties before Nieasha Wingster's backdoor layup with 38 seconds left gave Humphreys the victory.

"That's a mighty good team," Bulldogs coach Douglas Clarke said, adding that he was im-



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Brett Thomas (53) of the Camp Humphreys Bulldogs goes up for a dunk against the Osan Defenders during Saturday's round-robin play in the Osan Pacificwide Open Holiday Basketball Tournament at Osan Air Base, South Korea. Osan won 73-68.

pressed with the Falcons' Janel Daniels, who had 34 points. "She has unlimited potential. She should be playing college ball or for a base team."

Falcons coach Charlotte Hicks called the experience "more than she bargained for," but could not have been happier that her team went through the crucible of a tight contest.

"KAIAAC (Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference) doesn't give us the competition we need. But they've been there now," Hicks said of her players handling a tight battle. "This was a close game. We earned a little respect out there."

"It's not about winning and losing, but about growing as a team," Falcons boys coach Steve Boyd said of the reasons Seoul



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Quinton Smith (21) of the Osan Defenders goes up for a layup during his team's 73-68 victory Saturday over Camp Humphreys.

American entered the tournament. "Whenever we take the court, it makes us better players individually and a better team collectively."

It also makes better individual players because of a number of hopefuls who someday would like to join the likes of Yongsan Runnin' Rebels guard Ronald Bartley among the All-Armed Forces ranks.

Bartley is just two weeks removed from leading the All-Armed Forces team to a gold medal in the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe tournaments, Allied Powers Europe tournament against 41 other teams. Tournaments such as Osan can help launch similar careers, Bartley said.

"You play in these tournaments, you get an MVP, an all-tournament selection, these are things you put on your application for [an All-Service tryout] camp," Bartley said.

"These tournaments help out a lot. You're playing All-Air Force, All-Army, All-Marine players and you see where your game is at."

For still others, the tournament provided a chance to continue what they began on the Pacific high school courts. Jessica Hagman, an Osan American Class of 2003, played in the Osan tournament two years ago for the Cougars and is now playing post for the Osan Defenders base team, which beat Seoul American 65-45. She was the center on Osan's 2003 Far East Girls Class A runner-up team.

Former Class A boys MVP A.J. Scott, on seasonal holiday from Boise State, donned the uniform of his old Cougars team, but had less success than did Hagman, as Osan American fell 110-44 to Korea's Yongsan Runnin' Rebels.

Another former Pacific prep player, Sanna Lopez of Korea's Camp Humphreys Bulldogs, is an Army specialist who grew up as a Navy dependent in Santa Rita, Guam. She played for Southern and Oceanview High Schools in Far East Class A-A tournaments from 1995-98 in Japan and Okinawa.

"It's ironic that I'm back, playing Pacificwide ball again," she said.

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornauid@starsandstripes.osd.mil

## Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語訳もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese

## REACHING THE MILITARY AND JAPAN, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Yokota Christian Academy M-F

Sunday

Early Service 0830

Sunday School 1000

Morning Service 1100

Evening Service 1800

Monday

Faith Bible Institute 1830

Tuesday

Soul Winning &amp; Visitation 1830

Wednesday

Evening Service &amp; Prayer Mtg 1900

Patch &amp; Pee Wee Clubs 1900

Friday

Awana Club 1900

Monthly

Mens Prayer Breakfast 1st Sat

Ladies Meeting 1st Sat

CH\_\_CH

What is missing?

0425-52-7254

www.yokotabaptistchurch.org

**Shop New Wave Bedroom Suites for a good night's sleep!**

Choose from New Wave Bedroom Suite! Great selection of pillowtop mattresses, pillow top waterbed mattresses, furniture and accessories

**Plus! 10% off all regular stocked items and mattresses**

Good through December 31, 2004

**AAFES CONCESSIONAIRE**

**New Wave Bedroom Suites is open daily 10-6**  
Located near the AAFES Furniture Store on Yokota AB  
DSN 725-6379

At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.



Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger improved to 12-0 as an NFL starter, completing 18 of 28 passes for 316 yards, with one touchdown pass and two interceptions in a 33-30 victory over the Giants.

## Steelers extend win streak to 12

BY TOM CANAVAN  
The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Eli Manning's best game as a pro wasn't enough to stop Ben Roethlisberger and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Roethlisberger threw for a career-best 316 yards and hit four straight passes to set Jerome Bettis' game-winning 1-yard touchdown run with 4:57 to go, leading the Steelers to a 33-30 win over the New York Giants on Saturday.

Pittsburgh has won a team-record 12 straight games. Roethlisberger became the starter.

The 11th overall pick in the draft hit five passes of 34 or more yards in a much-hyped matchup with fellow rookie Manning.

The first pick in the draft bounced back from back-to-back horrible performances for the Giants to throw two touchdowns and lead four scoring drives against the league's top-ranked defense.

It wasn't enough to prevent the Giants (5-9) from losing their seventh in a row and allowing the Steelers (13-1) to inch closer to gaining home-field advantage in the AFC playoffs.

Antwan Randle El, who had five catches for 149 yards, caught a 35-yard touchdown pass and threw his first career TD with a 10-yard shovel pass to Vernon Haynes.

Jeff Reed kicked four field goals. Hines Ward had nine catches for 134 yards and Bettis ran for 140 yards in what turned out to be a test for the Steelers.

Manning, who was 16 of 23 for 182 yards, threw two touchdowns of 2 yards to Jeremy Shockey and 1 yard to Marcellus Shockey. He also hit Ananti Toomer with a 15-yarder to the Hilliard to set up a 1-yard TD run by Tiki Barber that gave New York a 30-26 lead with 8:15 to go.

Manning was sacked on a two-point conversion attempt. Roethlisberger, who was 18 of 28 with two interceptions, and the Steelers took over on the next pos-



Top overall draft pick Eli Manning had his best game as a pro on Saturday, going 16 of 23 for 182 yards, two touchdowns and one interception for the Giants.

session at their own 33. They needed seven plays to get the go-ahead score. Roethlisberger sandwiched passes of 9 and 11 yards to Ward around a dump off to Bettis before hitting Randle El for 36 yards to the Giants 8. Three straight runs by Bettis got the ball in the end zone.

Willie Williams picked off a deep throw intended for Toomer, who fell, on the next series and the Steelers ran out the clock.

Giants receiver Willie Ponder took the opening kickoff 91 yards for a score, the Giants' first game-opening kickoff return for a touchdown in a regular-season home game in their 80-year history. Ron Dixon had one at Giants Stadium in a playoff game against Philadelphia in the 2000 season.

The Steelers used trickery to tie the game. On third and 7 from the Giants 10, Roethlisberger took a shotgun snap and lateraled to Randle El, who threw a shovel pass to Haynes for a walk-in touchdown.

Manning, who had led the Giants to only one touchdown in three possessions since replacing Kurt Warner at quarterback, hit Shockey for a TD on the next series.

A 39-yard pass from Roethlisberger to Randle El set up a 33-yard field goal by Reed in the closing seconds of the quarter. He also had field goals of 21, 36 and 28 yards.

## With LSU's Saban the front-runner, Dolphins will interview minorities

BY JASON COLE  
The Miami Herald

MIAMI — Despite rumors that the Dolphins are negotiating process with LSU coach Nick Saban, the talks continued to progress, and an offer is expected soon.

Speculation that the Dolphins would slow the process is based on increasing pressure to follow league rules by interviewing a minority candidate.

The league is watching what's going on there," said John Wooten, chairman of the Fritz Pollard Association. The Pollard group pushed the league for what is known as the Rooney Rule. The rule requires teams to interview at least one qualified minority candidate for the head coach position.

If the Dolphins are looking for a qualified minority candidate, they need only call the NFL office in New York and ask for Art Shell.

On Friday, Shell said he would be interested in meeting with the Dolphins despite the obvious strong standing of Saban in the Dolphins' eyes.

Shell is the NFL's vice presi-

dent of football operations. He also is a Hall of Fame offensive tackle, former head coach with the Raiders and longtime NFL assistant coach.

"If you have ever been a head coach, you want the chance to do that again," said Shell, who compiled a 56-41 record with the Raiders from 1989-94. "If the Dolphins have an interest in me, I would be interested in talking to them."

Shell, 58, said he wasn't concerned about strong speculation that Saban is Miami's top choice. In 2003, the Lions had several minority coaches turn down requests for interviews when it was apparent Detroit would hire Steve Mariucci.

Ultimately, Lions president Matt Millen was fined \$250,000 for violating the Rooney Rule.

"I can't be concerned with what they're doing with Nick Saban. If you have an opportunity to get in front of a team and tell them about yourself, you need to do it," Shell said. "The Dolphins are a first-class organization, a great situation for any coach to consider."

Even if the situation doesn't

seem particularly open. On Friday, word spread through the Dolphins offices that the process might take a while, flying in the face of conventional logic about Saban and the situation at LSU.

One report indicated that the Dolphins might wait until January to make an offer to Saban. That seems highly unlikely, two sources said.

"That's what they're saying around here, but don't believe a word of it," a Dolphins source said. "They're making it sound like it's a legitimate search, but it's clear what they're doing. They're just feeling some heat from the league."

"They want Saban, and that's that."

Said another NFL source: "Saban is their guy. The rest of this stuff is all a smoke screen."

The Dolphins interviewed Saban on Tuesday night and were expected to begin negotiating financial terms and responsibilities this weekend.

The Dolphins have inquired about Baltimore consultant and former New York Giants coach Jim Fassel and Baltimore defensive coordinator Mike Nolan.

## Two Redskins fined \$10,000 for socks; Plummer's obscene gesture costs \$5,000

The Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — Washington Redskins running back Clinton Portis and safety Sean Taylor had their fines for wearing red socks doubled this week to \$10,000.

Portis and Taylor were fined \$5,000 apiece last week for wearing red socks instead of the standard white in the Redskins' victory over the New York Giants. They were then again in Sunday's game against Philadelphia, and on Friday the league punished each with a \$10,000 fine for violating uniform rules.

Portis harshly criticized the fines earlier this week. "I think that is a stupid fine for the simple fact that they want everybody to be the same," Portis said Wednesday. "This is an individual game, you know. That is the thing that has the league being the No. 1 sport, because different personalities come together as one and people enjoyed that."

Taylor was fined an additional \$10,000 for an out-of-bounds hit that knocked Eagles receiver Terrell Owens into a cheerleader.

Plummer fined for obscene gesture toward fan

DENVER — Broncos quarterback Jake Plummer was fined \$5,000 by the NFL on Friday for making an obscene gesture during last week's game.

Plummer and coach Mike Shanahan refused comment. Plummer apologized after the game, then during interviews Wednesday admitted he wasn't

perfect and promised he'd never make the same mistake.

"I'm not a robot. I'm a man that has warm blood and sometimes it gets hot in there running through my veins," Plummer said.

"As long as you can learn a lesson from it and stand up to be a man about what your actions were and move on, that's the true lesson you learn from it."

**Titans RB Brown out Sunday**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Running back Chris Brown will not play Sunday against the Oakland Raiders because of a turf toe injury.

**Pats CB Poole out for season**

FOXBORO, Mass. — Cornerback Tyrone Poole is done for the season after the New England Patriots put him on injured reserve with a knee injury.



**NFL Challenge**  
Y55MPH  
Week 16 Pick Deadline:  
2:00 pm, U.S. Central Time  
Friday, December 24  
Log in every week during the 2004 NFL Season and make your picks for the winners of upcoming NFL games. Earn points for every winning team you pick. At the end of the season, you may find yourself the winner. \* Enter the "secret code" above and DOUBLE your point total for the week!

**You know how to play the game, but do you know how to win?**

Play the NFL Challenge at [www.starsandstripes.com](http://www.starsandstripes.com) or [www.oconus.com](http://www.oconus.com) for your chance to win cash!

As a BONUS PRIZE, the top winner each week will receive \$100 toward merchandise at TeamStore.com

**TEAMSTORE.com**

Sponsored by  
**STARS AND STRIPES**  
OCONUS  
As a BONUS PRIZE, the top winner each week will receive \$100 toward merchandise at TeamStore.com

# James Madison wins first Div. I-AA title

The Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — James Madison coach Mickey Matthews said that Montana had problems against the run, and the Ducks exploited it to win their first Division I-AA championship.

## College football roundup

Maurice Fenner and quarterback Justin Rascati ran to two touchdowns apiece in a 31-21 victory over Montana on Friday night. The Ducks (13-2) rushed for 314 yards.

Fenner ran 29 times for 164 yards, and Rascati carried 11 times for 57 yards and completed 13 of 18 passes for 132 yards.

The Ducks took the lead for good after Fenner scored from 1 yard in the third quarter, and Rascati sealed it with a 6-yard TD run in the fourth.

The Ducks were the first team to reach the I-AA title game by winning all four regular games on the road, advancing past the second round for the first time.

The two-time champion Griz-

zies (12-3), playing in their fifth title game and led by Colorado transfer quarterback Craig Ochs, took a 21-17 lead in the third quarter, but couldn't stop James Madison's rushing attack.

## Division III

**Linfield 28, Mary Hardin-Baylor 21:** At Salem, Va., Riley Jenkins turned a swing pass into a go-ahead touchdown with 5:51 to play Saturday as Linfield won its first NCAA Division III national championship by beating Mary Hardin-Baylor (13-2).

The 10-yard score came one play after Zach Fleming's rush disrupted Crusaders punter Hunter Hamrick, causing him to fumble and fall on the ball on his 10.

One play later, Brett Elliott hit Jenkins out of the backfield. Jenkins made a one-handed grab, eluded two defenders down the sideline and dove into the end zone, capping a perfect season for the Wildcats (3-0).

Elliott finished 20-for-34 for 282 yards with two interceptions and two TD passes. The Utah transfer finished with an NCAA-record 61 TD passes.



James Madison's Maurice Fenner (32) rushed for 164 yards and two touchdowns as the Ducks defeated Montana 31-21 for the Division I-AA championship Friday night in Chattanooga, Tenn.

## NAIA

**Carroll 15, St. Francis 13:** In Savannah, Tenn., Marcus Miller kicked a 32-yard field goal with 10 seconds left to give Carroll its third straight NAIA title.

Chris Brannell gave St. Francis (13-1) a 13-12 lead with a 1-yard touchdown plunge with 1:13 left to complete a 17-play, 89-yard drive, but quarterback Tyler Emmert drove Carroll (12-2) down the field without a timeout. Emmert was 3-for-4 for 49 yards and had an 11-yard run in the drive.

# Troops in Iraq watch Kentucky-Louisville

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Troops at Camp Fallujah and Camp Cooke in Iraq were able to watch Saturday's telecast of the annual basketball game between Kentucky and Louisville.

"Anything we can do to entertain or distract them in any small way is awesome," said Louisville coach Rick Pitino, whose No. 13 Cardinals lost 68-58 to No. 9 Kentucky.

Inside Freedom Hall, fans could see and hear the troops on the arena's video board. Gov. Ernie Fletcher led the crowd in wishing the troops a merry Christmas.

About 20 families were reunited by a program called "Freedom Calls." Through interactive technology — arranged by Kentucky TeleHealth Network — family members were able to have a private video conference with the soldiers before and after the game, which was shown on ESPN.

Family members stood on the court with players during the national anthem. In Iraq, the soldiers stood at attention for "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Web cameras and e-mail have made communication easier with loved ones in Iraq. But this added a new element for the soldiers' and had gone 15 years without a national title.

"If you go back and read the newspapers ... you'll get exactly the same thing you're reading right now. It's too tough academically, the schedule is too tough, they can't get the good players," Parseghian said.

"I honestly believe they're back for an up cycle."

Weis has no interest in leaving back.

He takes the job with no illusions, either. A 1978 graduate, he knows all too well the rigors of Notre Dame's academic standards.

And after winning two of his three Super Bowl rings as the New England Patriots' offensive coordinator, he doesn't care to discuss tough schedules.

"The people that complain about those things are looking for excuses," he said. "If I answered that any other way, what I would be doing is letting the players have a reason for or have an excuse for failure."

As bleak as things looked the past two weeks, almost all will be forgiven if Weis whips together a season or two of that old music.

For some, though, Notre Dame will never quite be the same.

"If you're in the limelight, there are always going to be ups and downs because nobody's perfect," said Jim Harbaugh, the school's president emeritus. "For that reason, you will have ups and downs in every human endeavor. But the important thing is to keep on trying, and to keep that goal up there high."

# Irish: Willingham's firing called school's integrity into question

IRISH, FROM BACK PAGE

Already reeling from the Davie years, Notre Dame had been snubbed by Jon Gruden and Oregon coach Mike Bell. Then came O'Leary, an Irish Catholic who had long dreamed of coaching at Notre Dame and promised to wake up the echoes, as the school's fight song says.

Later, White would say O'Leary was like "something out of central casting."

But O'Leary wasn't quite what he seemed. He didn't have the master's degree in education that he claimed, nor had he played college football for three years. O'Leary quickly resigned, but it was humiliating nonetheless for Notre Dame.

So when the Irish struggled under Willingham, a group of alumni sent a letter to the board of trustees, expressing concern about the direction of the football program.

"We weren't talking about two years of Tyrone Willingham, we were talking about 10 years," said Tim Kelley, a 1964 graduate and one of the authors of the letter, sent last January.

"Football is the emotional engine that drives Notre Dame. We absolutely believe that," Kelley said. "It was going down the drain and people were doing anything about it."

The alumni got their wish — but at what price? In firing Willingham, the first black head coach at Notre Dame, the Irish essentially put a won-loss record ahead of integrity.

White didn't agree with the decision and had only high praise for Willingham, but he wasn't prepared to "break ranks" with university leaders. The Rev. Edward Malloy, Notre Dame's president, was prepared, saying he was "embarrassed" by the firing and hadn't supported it.

Malloy's assistant shaved her head in protest, and T-shirts supporting Willingham were soon spotted around town. Dave Duerson, a former player and board of



Notre Dame head coach Lou Holtz is carried off the field at Tempe, Ariz., on Jan. 2, 1989, after his team defeated West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl to win the 1988 national championship. Notre Dame hasn't won a national title since.

trustees member, said the school had badly mishandled the dismissal, causing a "major PR nightmare."

"Personnel decisions are always difficult, transitions are always difficult, and this is no different," said the Rev. John Jenkins, the incoming president.

Getting snubbed by their coach of choice didn't help. Former Irish assistant Urban Meyer was expected to jump when Notre Dame beckoned with his dream job. But Meyer was already leaning toward Florida when Willingham was fired, and his meeting with Notre Dame officials turned out to be little more than a show of respect.

In another sign of how mortal the Irish have become, top candidates weren't lining up. Jeff Teufel, full out of contention when he signed an extension at Cal — a school whose defining moment in football history is a touchdown run through the Stanford band.

All this has by no means left the Irish with a crisis of confidence. Notre Dame has already been patching up its internal fractures.

Jenkins and Malloy have closed ranks, often using the same words to answer the toughest questions. Jenkins is taking full blame for calling the meeting to fire Willingham, saying there was no "undue influence" from the board of trustees.

He also plays down questions of dissension, saying the differing opinions simply reflect the passion people have for Notre Dame. As for the school's integrity, Jenkins and Malloy point to Notre Dame's high graduation rate — 99 percent overall for players who stay at least four years.

While Jenkins did apologize to the Faculty Board of Athletics on Wednesday, according to a copy of his speech obtained by the South Bend Tribune, he said the best way to move forward is to act as Notre Dame always has.

"Only in the sense of being what we are in the best way we can, that's the only repair work we have to do," Jenkins said. "That's what we need to do to get people believing in us. I think people will respond positively to that."

Former coach Ara Parseghian, one of the school's greatest coaches, noted that the Irish have hit rough patches before — and have endured.

Certainly, he said, the names Rockne, the Gipper and the Four Horsemen come to mind, as do 11 national championships. But there were some pretty lean years under Faust and Joe Kuharich, too. When Parseghian took over in 1964, the Irish hadn't had a winning season in five years

**“The people that complain about those things [tough academic standards and schedule] are looking for excuses.”**

**Charlie Weis**

New Notre Dame football coach

## SPORTS

## Irish now fighting for their reputation

Plagued by problems, Notre Dame loses luster from once-golden football program

BY NANCY ARMOUR  
The Associated Press

**T**he goals are as lofty as they were in Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy's day, the demand as unforgiving.

Winning is, and always will be, demanding at Notre Dame. But the gulf has been flaking for years now, and the furor over Tyrone Willingham's firing only exposed the extent of the flaws. For all its rich history and tradition, Notre Dame's football program is now like so many others in need of a rehab.

"I think right now, when you're 6-5, you can't call yourself an elite program," athletic director Kevin White said. "I think historically we are, traditionally we are. But coming out of the 2004 season, we certainly are not. We have to find our way back to the pinnacle position, and that's what we're going to do."

But how? The harsh criticism and inside squabbling that accompanied Willingham's dismissal are only the latest problems for Notre Dame. In truth, the program has been in decline for nearly a decade.

"You are what you are, folks, and right now, you're a 6-5 football team," new coach Charlie Weis said. "And guess what? That's not good enough."

The Irish haven't won a national title since 1988, and it's been 11 years since they even contended for one. Their records have been mediocre at best, and any progress has been short-lived.

Lou Holtz lost 11 games in his last three seasons, two more than he'd lost in the previous six. Bob Davie was the first coach in 34 years to lose four straight, and his two losing seasons in five years matched Gerry Faust. Willingham went 13-15 after winning his first eight games, losing five games by 31 points or more.

Knute Rockne compiled a record of 105-12-5 as Notre Dame's football coach from 1918 to 1930. The goals are as lofty as they were in Rockne's day, but the results don't compare. The Fighting Irish haven't won a national championship since 1988 and haven't contended for one in more than a decade.

Entertaining rookie QB battle between Roethlisberger and Manning results in another Steelers victory, Page 30

Notre Dame's most recent controversy was the firing of Tyrone Willingham, the school's first black head football coach, after three years of a five-year deal.



### Highs and lows in Irish history

Notre Dame coaching records					
Year, Coach	Yrs	W	L	T	Pct.
1887-88, 92-93 No head coaches		5	7	4	.625
1889-91 L. Morison	1	3	1	0	.750
1895-96 H.G. Hadden	1	3	1	0	.750
1896-98 Frank Hering	3	12	6	1	.666
1899 James McWenney	1	6	3	0	.666
1900-01 Patrick O'Dea	2	14	4	2	.750
1902-03 James Fargher	2	14	2	0	.833
1904 Louis Salmon	1	5	3	0	.625
1905 Henry McGraw	1	4	2	0	.666
1906-07 Thomas Barry	2	12	1	1	.889
1908 Victor Place	1	8	1	0	.889
1909-10 Frank Longman	2	11	1	2	.857
1911-12 John Marks	1	13	0	0	.933
1913-17 Jesse Harper	5	34	5	1	.863
1918-20 Knute Rockne	11	105	12	2	.881
1921-33 Hank Anderson	3	16	9	2	.639
1934-35 Arthur Layden	1	47	13	0	.770
1941-43, 46-53 Frank Leahy	11	87	11	9	.855
1944-45 McKeever	1	47	13	0	.770
1945-1963 Hugh Devore	2	9	9	1	.500
1964-65 Terry Brennan	5	32	18	0	.640
1969-82 Joe Kuharich	4	17	23	0	.425
1983-85 Art Pasqualan	11	56	19	0	.746
1979-80 Dan Devine	6	53	16	1	.764
1981-85 Gerry Faust	5	30	20	2	.575
1986-88 Lou Holtz	11	100	30	2	.765
1997-01 Bob Davie	5	35	25	0	.583
2001 George O'Leary	0	0	0	0	.000
2002-04 Ty Willingham	6	21	15	0	.583
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>.744</b>

Source: The Associated Press

The Irish have been unranked for long stretches at a time and have been in a top-tier bowl game only once since 1995 — a 41-9 loss to Oregon State in the 2001 Fiesta Bowl. They've had one first-round draft pick in the past five years.

The off-the-field woes were equally galling. There have been scandals more suited for a football rapey, including an age discrimination lawsuit and rape accusations against four former players. The school suffered its first major NCAA violation after a booster lavished more than a dozen players with gifts, trips and money — paid for with the \$1.4 million she'd embezzled from her employer.

Perhaps worst of all was the ever-so-brief tenure of George O'Leary, who resigned in December 2001 — five days after he was hired — after admitting he lied on his résumé about his academic and athletic background.

O'Leary looked like the perfect person to revive the Irish.

SEE IRISH ON PAGE 31

Kentucky's comeback shocks rival Louisville; sixth-ranked Wake Forest edges Texas

Page 28



James Madison runs to victory, first Division I-AA championship against two-time champ Montana

Page 31



Raptors trade Carter to Nets for three players, two draft picks

Page 26

Osan basketball tournament draws diverse field

Page 29

